Free FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Little Boy
Congratulations Shellie and Ian
on the birth of little Jake on the 20th December
All our Love from Mum & Dad, Jo & Gavin and Adam & Jenny

Have a Great 2nd Birthday
Nigel
Love Stacey, Mark & Megan

To my darling Debs
Happy 30th Anniversary
All my love Roy xx

Darran McLeod & Rebecca Gibbins
Congratulations on your engagement, Love family & Friends

Happy 10th Birthday Dec 25th
Ricky Littley
Loads of Love, Nan, Grandad, Mum, Dad, Joss & Ben

Christmas Memories of Mike and Cathy Pike
Missed so much by Charmaine, Cillian, Mum & the pets

Diamond Wedding Anniversary
26th Dec
Beryl & Dudley Prior
Love Mike, Kim, Abbie & Luke

Happy 2nd Birthday
Nigel
25/12/09, Lots of Love
Mummy, Tina & Faye xx

Happy Birthday
Nigel
Have lots of Fun, Love Daddy

Happy 40th Birthday
Tracey Dare
28/12/09
Have a great day, Lots of love Mum & Colin

Happy Christmas
Eliza Grace Dennis
From Nanny & Grandad Cleall & Family

Have a Happy Christmas Daddy
Love you loads Megan xx

Tracey Dare
Happy 40th Birthday
28/12/09 Lots of Love
Matthew, Abz and Madz

Happy 18th Birthday
Deano
Lots of Love Mum, Stig & Shannon

Diamond Wedding Anniversary
26th December 2009
Beryl & Dudley Prior
Love Brian, Angie, Robbie & James

Season Greetings to Everyone
from George, Hilary & Gordon Mabon

Congratulations Kirsti & Mark
on the birth of Sophie 13-12-09
Love Mum & Dad & Emma

Happy 18th Birthday
23rd December
Tanya Morgan
Love Mum, Dad & Family

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENT ORDER FORM

Message .....

.....

Date for insertion: Tuesday .....

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Unit 3, St Michaels Business Centre, Church Street, Lyme Regis, Dorset DT7 3DB

Signed ..... Telephone.....

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RESIDENT CALLS FOR ROAD RESTRICTIONS

BY BEN MIDDLETON
ben@tindlenews.co.uk

A HONITON resident is asking East Devon District Council (EDDC) to urgently implement speed and weight restrictions on a road in the town.

Syd Taylor claims that as part of the proposal for the Glen Farm development, that was constructed more than 10 years ago, EDDC agreed it would put the restrictions in place at Waterleat Avenue — to access Glen Farm Crescent motorists have to travel along Waterleat Avenue.

Mr Taylor said: "This has been going on since 1995 and started with the Glen Farm development. EDDC were meant to ensure that Waterleat Avenue would have speed and weight restrictions, I want to know where they have got to with this?

"I have made an official complaint to Honiton Town Council. The town council has taken this on and I am waiting to hear back.

"EDDC is very stringent when it comes to planning applications and they make people follow the rules and implement everything properly. It seems EDDC don't pay attention to their own conditions of approval.

"The speed and weight restriction is desperately needed and EDDC has failed to address this."

A spokesman for EDDC said: "If the resident has any further issues with this road, these would need to be taken up with Devon County Council (DCC) as highway authority.

"The road was constructed in 2000 and opened for public use on December 22nd 2000. Traffic calming measures were advertised in May 2000 and installed in January 2001 and remain in situ.

"The road also has a 30mph restriction. There was no requirement for a weight restriction under the section 106 agreement. A width restriction was advertised in April 2000 and implemented in 2001 and signs displayed to this effect.

"The road has not been adopted by the county at this time, this remains a county matter."

Mr Taylor has since drafted a letter to the Highways and Traffic Orders Committee at DCC.

In the letter he asks the committee to look at the possibility of installing a weight restriction order and kerb to kerb speed restriction measures in Waterleat Avenue.

Mr Taylor is awaiting a response from the county council.

Police survey drivers' speed

SPEEDING motorists in Dunkeswell will continue to be monitored by Honiton police after the issue was raised during a recent Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meeting.

The main concern is the amount of motorists exceeding the 30mph limit along a stretch of road that runs past the Highfield Garage and close to a housing estate in the village.

In the last few weeks Honiton police have been carrying out speed detection survey's using a speed trolley.

A spokesman for the force said: "During the times we were there around 80 to 90 vehicles passed through in each direction.

"Six vehicles were stopped and the drivers spoken to about excess speed.

"We are aware however, that many motorists were given advance warning of our presence and drivers are reminded that in doing this they commit an offence.

"As a result of this more speed detection will be carried out at various times and locations in the Dunkeswell area over the coming weeks."

◆ HONITON police carry out a speed survey in Dunkeswell

Car checks after worry

HONITON police have carried out a speed detection survey in Awliscombe after concerns were raised by residents during Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meetings.

On Wednesday, December 9th, speed checks were carried out on the A373, outside the primary school in the village.

Five vehicles were stopped and the drivers were warned about their speed.

One motorist was issued with a fixed penalty notice — this means a fine of £60 and three points on their licence.

Gallery shut temporarily

HONITON'S Thelma Hulbert Gallery will be temporarily closed from January until May next year.

It will reopen in the spring having undergone an extensive refurbishment and will offer more gallery and exhibition space.

Contact details for the gallery will remain the same.

For more information visit www.thelmahulbert.com or call 01404 45006.

Crews called to home fire

A FIRE ripped through a property at West Hill, near Ottery St Mary, on Thursday evening, December 17th.

Three fire crews from Honiton and Ottery were called to the scene just after 7.15pm.

The blaze took hold of the two storey house and caused 30 percent damage to the roof.

Police and fire investigators were also called to the scene.

Firefighters rescue victim

A WOMAN was rescued by firefighters wearing breathing apparatus from a flat fire in Whitebridges, Honiton, in the early hours of Monday, December 14th.

Rescue services were alerted at 3.07am and a spokesperson for the fire and rescue service said it was a kitchen fire in a second floor flat.

Father's life at sea story

A BOOK by West Hill-based Philip Algar has hit the shelves of shops.

Goodbye old chap: A Life At Sea In Peace And War tells the story of his father Stanley's life at sea.

Stanley was a merchant navy captain, whose career at sea spanned two world wars and a lengthy period as a prisoner of war in Germany.

The book is partly based on Stanley's diaries, written in a POW camp and hidden from the Germans.

Captain Stanley Algar was master of a Shell oil tanker and was captured in the South Atlantic in 1941. His detailed account of the incident differs significantly from the German version and Philip, who consulted widely on aspects of the incident, analyses both stories.

Philip says his father received food parcels from the Red Cross when a POW, so royalties from the book will go to the Red Cross.

Those interested in finding out more about the book can attend Ottery Library on February 3rd, when the author will give a talk, starting at 2pm.

More information about the event is available from the library.

The Curious Otter Bookshop in Ottery is among those stocking the book.

CONTACT THE NEWS TEAM WITH YOUR STORIES ON 01297 631120

◆ THE Southwest Deer Rescue and Study Centre took a young Red Deer to meet the pupils at Honiton Primary School on Friday morning. The youngsters are pictured as they get close to the deer in the school playground

Honiton Cats Protection

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Tools stolen from vehicle

POWER tools have been stolen from a van in Axminster.

Someone drilled a hole in a door lock and removed tools including a Bosch hammerdrill and a Hitachi power drill.

All the tools had the initials DES burnt on the handles and cases.

The theft took place at some point between 10am and 2pm on Tuesday, December 15th.

The van was either parked in Beavor Lane or the car park at the old cattle market when the theft happened.

Anyone with information is asked to call 08452 777 444 and ask for Axminster police. The crime reference number is KA/09/650.

Wallet taken

POLICE are urging people not to leave wallets and other valuables in their cars.

Someone broke into a car parked in Fairfield Close, Axminster, and stole a wallet overnight between December 9th and 10th.

Anyone who may have spotted something suspicious is asked to call 08452 777 444 and ask for Axminster police. The crime reference number is KA/09/636.

Leak of fuel

A CAR leaked petrol in West Street, Axminster, after its tank ruptured.

Firefighters were called to clean up the spill just before 3.40pm on Saturday, December 19th.

A fire and rescue service spokesperson said a piece of metal had come into contact with the underside of the car, rupturing the tank.

No support for dog mess idea

BY ANDERS LARSSON
anders@tindlenews.co.uk

AN Axminster town councillor failed to win any support for a proposal to get rid of dog bins in the district.

Councillor Jeremy Walden mooted the idea as a way for East Devon District Council (EDDC) to save money.

EDDC has announced it will have to make savings, and has invited town and parish councils to come up with ideas.

Axminster town councillors discussed the matter during the authority's December meeting.

Councillor Walden suggested that EDDC should remove its dog bins, saying: "They cost an inordinate amount of money."

He presented two alternatives for dog owners should the bins be removed.

The first one was to double wrap the dog mess and dispose of it in ordinary litter bins.

The second option was to use a compostable bag and deposit the mess with food waste, which is collected weekly from homes by EDDC.

But councillor Walden's proposal for EDDC to remove dog bins failed at the first hurdle as no fellow councillor came forward as a seconder.

Ways for EDDC to save money are expected to be discussed again by the town council in January.

Cuts will have to be made, and it is a possibility that park maintenance, street cleaning, and the keeping of flower beds, for example, will be affected one way or another.

The town council may invite organisations and clubs for talks to see if they would like to become involved with the keeping of flower beds should EDDC decide to cut or cease its budget for these.

Councillor finally gets NHS meeting

AN Ottery St Mary town councillor has finally met face-to-face with NHS Devon representatives after several months of email contact.

Roger Giles and Sally Slade, managing director of NHS Devon's health and social delivery directorate, which runs Ottery St Mary Hospital, held a meeting on Friday, December 18th, to discuss the NHS winter plan and how it would affect Ottery hospital.

As previously reported in this newspaper, Mr Giles expressed his concern over the temporary closure of seven beds at the hospital.

He said that it was "vitally important" that the hospital was fully available for use by local people over the winter months. Mr Giles said he was also concerned about the financial impact the plan could have on patients and their family members, who would have to travel further afield to receive treatment.

Mr Giles had been in email contact with the NHS since the end of October but had so far not received the answers he required.

During last Friday's meeting the two parties discussed the NHS plan.

Mrs Slade said the meeting was constructive and agreed to provide Mr Giles with further information if it was requested.

She said: "We had a constructive meeting with councillor Giles.

"Cllr Giles originally posed more than 20 questions to us regarding the local NHS winter plan and Ottery St Mary Hospital. While we answered these, we felt that the several subsequent questions the councillor posed warranted a face-to-face meeting.

"During the meeting, we addressed these and agreed to supply further documentation he has asked for.

"We will continue to respond to Cllr Giles' requests for information."

◆ AXMINSTER Lions Club took its Father Christmas sleigh to meet the pupils at Mrs Ethelston's Primary School in Uplyme and each of them was given some sweets by Santa

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EDDC leader slams decision

BY BEN MIDDLETON
ben@tindlenews.co.uk

THE leader of East Devon District Council (EDDC) has slammed a decision by the Boundary Committee to recommend a single unitary council for Devon.

The Boundary committee announced their decision last week and this has angered district council representatives.

Sara Randall Johnson, the leader of EDDC, said: "The only thing more surprising than the ridiculous single Devon unitary proposal is the period of time that the public will have to comment — six weeks, to include the distraction of Christmas and New Year holidays.

"We have argued all along that a massive council covering all the disparate parts of Devon, an area four times the size of greater London, would be unwieldy and undemocratic.

"Despite the latest court judgement, in favour of the Boundary Committee, earlier judgements have censured the Boundary Committee for its poorly constructed consultation process — Now the secretary of state is compounding this by allowing the public and councils just 24 working days to respond.

"This shows the arrogance of this government knows no bounds. Throughout this process they have shown comtempt for the views of the many thousands of Devon residents who oppose the proposal."

Mrs Randall Johnson also claims that if the proposal is accepted, Devon will have the worst level of democratic representation in the country with only 100 elected councillors representing 740,000 people.

She also said that the figures used to calculate the amount of money that could be saved by having one single authority were out of date.

"It has been estimated that the single Devon council proposal can save £28million after transitional costs of £74million are met during year four. From year five, the year-on-year savings are assumed to be around £19million each year," she said.

"Those figures are based on 2007 estimates, which are way out of date now.

"Good local councils working together is the key to success and I would hope that the minister — who has the final say on this, will think again before adopting this stupid scheme.

"We will be taking legal advice consulting with our partner authorities on what steps we may be able to take in opposing this absurd idea."

Drivers warned about ice

MOTORISTS across east Devon are being asked to take care when travelling on minor roads because of the icy conditions.

Devon and Cornwall Police say they have had to deal with a large number of collisions caused by the freezing temperatures.

A spokesman for the force said: "Icy conditions on minor roads has led to an increase in collisions throughout the day across the region. The police has received in excess of 40 reports of vehicle collisions in one day due to the icy conditions.

"Whilst most major roads are not affected, many minor and side roads remain icy throughout the day. With temperatures likely to drop below freezing overnight police are advising motorisrs to take extreme care on untreated roads, allow extra time and consider if their journey is absolutely necessary."

PHOTO BY COLIN BOWERMAN

◆ TWO local authors were busy signing copies of their books during a Christmas Fair at the Boston Tea Party in Honiton High Street. Wendy Knee, left, is pictured with her book, Never Die Wondering, and Sally Ann Sheridan with her book, If Wishes Were Horses

Police urge motorists to check lights

POLICE forces across east Devon are urging motorists to make sure their vehicles are ready for winter.

Drivers are also being reminded that they should ensure that all the lights on their vehicles are in full working order.

A spokesman for the force said: "The inclement weather we have endured over the last month or so also means that fully functional vehicle lighting is required even during daylight hours.

"Furthermore, it is a statutory requirement under the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 to ensure that all obligatory lamps are in working order. Please do not let defective lights contribute to an unnecessary accident."

Farmer helps stranded car

A MOTORIST travelling through Stockland, near Honiton, on Sunday, December 20th, was left stranded after their car was unable to travel up a hill because of the icy conditions.

Firefigthers from Axminster were called to the scene at just before 3pm.

The fire engine also struggled because of the ice and the crew had to attend the incident on foot.

A local farmer with a 4x4 took the motorist and passengers to safety and also moved the vehicle to safety.

Nephew inspires man to take on challenge

BY BEN MIDDLETON
ben@tindlenews.co.uk

THE manager of Honiton Swimming and Leisure Centre has taken part in the challenge of a lifetime in aid of charity.

Simon Davey recently completed a two week trek to Everest base camp to raise money for CLIC Sargent — the charity that helped his young nephew, Anthony McSherry, through a serious illness.

Mr Davey says he had to complete a gruelling fitness regime to get him in peak physical condition for the trip.

His training included playing football, gym work and walking on Dartmoor.

He said: "It was the most incredible experience but such hard work.

"It was around 70 miles in total and when you take into account the extreme conditions and altitude it seemed like triple that. However, I felt in good shape and the scenery was amazing so made it all worthwhile.

"CLIC Sargent were of such support to Anthony and his whole family when he was ill so it's a charity very close to my heart."

Having set an initial fundrasing target of £3,500, Mr Davey says he is now well on the way to reaching the £5,000 mark.

Donations are still being accepted at www.justgiving.com/simondavey.

◆ SIMON Davey at Everest base camp

CONTACT THE NEWSROOM ON 01297 631120

Environment change at the Glen thanks to youth team

HONITON Town Council has announced that it will be working with youngsters taking part in an Entry to Employment programme as part of its volunteer scheme at the Glen.

The youngsters involved in the programme are aged between 16 and 17 and will undertake tasks that will help them gain a qualification.

At the Glen young people from Honiton and Exmouth will be working on the regeneration scheme, carrying out tasks to improve the environment of the Glen.

They will also host a fashion show at Honiton Motel on Tuesday, January 19th, in aid of the Hospice Charity.

Tickets for the show cost £5 and are available from the hotel or the Hospice Shop in Honiton High Street.

College gets new funding

HONITON Community College has succeeded in gaining funding for a new laptop and mobile phone dongle that will allow students to access the internet on the move.

Students in year 12 will have access to the equipment and are encouraged to use it in college lessons and whilst studying at home.

Andrew Holt, assistant principal at the college, said: "The college will be reviewing this initiative in the near future to see the impact on the students' education."

Concert is a big success

A CONCERT raised more than £3,000 for good causes and was labelled an "outstanding success" by organisers.

The Commando Training Centre Royal Marines Band played to a packed audience in Axminster's Guildhall on Friday, December 4th, in a concert organised by The Rotary Club of Axminster .

Rotarian John Hewson said: "The evening was a resounding success, enjoyed by all.

"The concert was in aid of Help for Heroes and The Royal British Legion, who will equally share the proceeds from the event."

Sign stolen

AN oval and gold-painted sign was removed and taken away from Hookhill Farm, Membury, on December 3rd or 4th.

Police would like to hear from anyone who observed the theft or have information about the sign's whereabouts.

Please call 08452 777 444 and ask for Axminster police if you have any information.

The crime reference number is KA/09/625.

Service list

ST PETER and St Paul's Church, Uplyme, has released details of its Christmas services.

On Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th, a crib service will held at 5pm and then from 11.10pm a parish communion and candle light service will take place.

Christmas Day services will take place at 8am and 10am and then on Sunday, December 27th, a parish communion will be held from 10am.

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In the editor's shoes

Written by editorial manager KATE ERIN MEW

Balancing act for us

AS a journalist, you are taught from the very start of your career the importance of balance and fairness and how, when you produce copy for newspaper publication, a slant or 'angle' of a story can give a different perception to the reader.

I am very proud, therefore, that *Pulman's View* is one of the most balanced newspapers I have worked at and, as editor, it is I who would carry the can if it were not.

This newspaper series across east Devon is made up of five community newspapers, which the chairman of parent company Tindle Newspapers Ltd, Sir Ray Tindle, calls 'parish pump'.

He means each is the core information provider of very local news that very local people want to read.

This means that our aims and objective, perhaps, differ somewhat to those who work on, say, a tabloid national paper.

Our office is in the centre of Axminster town, between our small, close-knit editorial team, we know well many of the people we deal with — and are likely to bump into them in a local shop or pub — so gathering, collating and producing news stories is our only agenda and making it fair and balanced is a very high priority.

We have recently introduced a new policy on our letters pages that we will only publish letters that we have received with full names, address and telephone numbers — this is for legal reasons... as well as enabling us to contact those who are lucky enough to win the Star Letter prize which is kindly provided each week by Archway Bookshop of Axminster.

The letters pages are for the readers, giving you a platform to air your views on local matters. We publish virtually all local letters sent in (unless they are libellous!) and are proud of the high standard of balance these letters show.

However, we cannot publish anything anonymous or without the correct details as mentioned so please, if you are going to take part in a local debate through our pages — and I urge you to use it — please ensure your details are included. We can still keep these from publication if specified as long as we have them for our records.

■ Well, Christmas is nearly here, odds are good for a white one and I've been good this year (I think) so things are looking bright.

Due to the timing of the festive holiday though, please bear a thought for those of us who have to work over Christmas (I'm looking for some sympathy here please). Because of this, our 'unofficial works do' has been cancelled for 2009 as there just isn't the time for it. We ususally huddle up in the office with some booze and festive food and drink our way through an emotional rollercoaster of songs (many of which originate from the 1980s) which we find on the internet and play ... amongst other things.

However, we did enjoy a very tasty Christmas meal at the 'official works do' on Thursday evening at The Old Inn at Kilmington. We were looked after by Duncan Colvin and his team and the food was delicious.

On that note, I'd like to wish you and your families a very merry Christmas. Enjoy.

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To contact the editor, write to: Pulman's View from, South Street, Axminster, Devon EX13 5AD or email kate@tindlenews.co.uk

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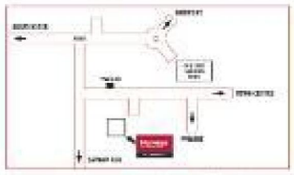

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The festive faces of children across Pulman's Country in their school nativity plays...

PULMAN'S LITTLE ANGELS

◆ FENITON Primary School, above and below, put on their nativity play dress rehearsal in front of the whole school on Friday. The play included spacemen visiting earth at Christmas time

◆ THE children at Ruperts Playgroup in Seaton pictured during a dress rehearsal for their nativity play on Thursday morning, above. Left, Pupils at Colyton Primary School busy rehearsing their end of term nativity play in the school hall. Seaton Primary School pupils, below

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The festive faces of children across Pulman's Country in their school nativity plays...

PULMAN'S LITTLE ANGELS

◆ THE primary school pupils in Dalwood performed their nativity play in the village church, above. Pupils at Littletown Primary School in Honiton put on a carol concert as their end of term production, and some of the children are pictured, below, singing

◆ AXMINSTER Primary School pupils are pictured, right, during their Christmas play. Above, pupils at Branscombe Primary School get ready to perform their nativity play on stage in the village hall.

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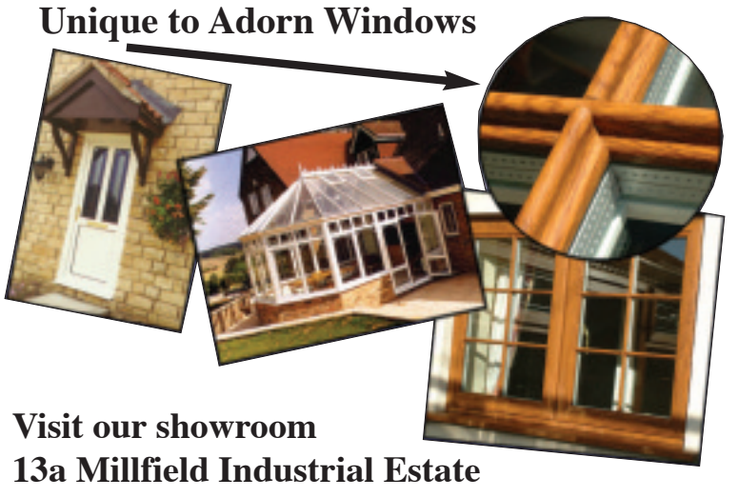

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We wonder where else we can go

EDITOR — In reply to Mrs Dawson's letter, *Pulman's View* (December 8th), with regard to the police chastising children for skateboarding on the road these letters make me very angry.

Being a boy of 12 and a very keen skater it hurts when people say: "Don't skate in the road go somewhere else." Then we think, well where are we going to go?

The skatepark has holes in every ramp. The MGB train track fitters have driven vans over the half-pipe and cracked it. They have walked over ramps with muddy boots and the mud gets thrown onto our shoes and skateboards. So where shall we go?

I don't know how old you are, Mrs Dawson, but the modern day society has changed for the worse with big housing estates flying up all around.

Obviously, children are going to play in the road, that's what every child does and they will fall over, break bones, because that's what we do so you can't say we blame everyone else because we don't! So if you have a problem with today's youth growing up, I think we could all say you are selfish.

Name and address supplied

Send your letters to the editor: Pulman's View, Tindle House, South Street, Axminster, Devon EX13 5AD or email to: pulmans@tindlenews.co.uk

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Our issues are with nameless neighbours — not the police

EDITOR — Quite rightly your article has prompted a lot of comments being made in response to the police being called to deal with children skateboarding.

As parents, our issues are not with the police as such but more the approach made by 'nameless' neighbours who chose to take a heavy-handed approach to the situation.

As responsible parents, we would have much preferred a neighbourly chat and could easily have resolved the matter in hand.

As it is, the children were left very frightened, given that their ages ranged from 5 years to 10 years, with one or two reduced to tears.

We are very fortunate to live in a very low crime area and to have a dedicated and responsive police team but on this occasion we do wonder why it was necessary to take up their time over an incident that involved such young children, who were playing outside, on a rare dry day, for 15 minutes before school.

The skateboard park which has been suggested as a more suitable play location has been closed for some time now.

When open it was frequented by much older children, often drinking or smoking, and was left in a sorry state.

Perhaps the anger of the residents should be directed towards Wainhomes, who, as developers of a new residential estate, anticipated that there would be a number of families with children moving in.

With this in mind, a number of families made a substantial financial contribution to Wainhomes towards a play area which was ear-marked in the original development.

Three years down the line and after several attempts to get action from Wainhomes, there is still not a play area – maybe a breach of the original planning application?

Whilst we are not excusing the fact that the children were skateboarding we feel that we must address why the action taken prompted us to react with such anger and dismay.

The children concerned are well behaved and respected by a number of our neighbours who have spoken to us in support.

The same children, we may add, who recently delighted so many visitors to the Guildhall with their joyous Christmas Carols – not typical behaviour of 'modern day do as they like families'.

Richard Payne and Angela Hankin
Catnip Close
Axminster

STAR LETTER

£10 Archway Bookshop vouchers are on their way to your door...

Police work

EDITOR — Regarding the letter from a reader, *Pulman's View* (December 15th), about the young lad who was asked politely by police to stop skateboarding on a pavement followed by the mother complaining about the policeman doing his job.

If these children were brought up with manners and respect for others this incident would not have happened.

We employ the police to protect the community and everybody in it. So that mother should be grateful that the lad was corrected in the good old-fashioned way of policing. If the boy was crying it is because he had been found out and felt guilty.

Some parents need to stop moaning about the police and learn how to look after their children properly and know where they are and what they are doing not just let them run riot in the town. It is good to see policemen and women on the beat again.

To the mother, you wanted a child so look after him properly and make sure he behaves himself, you are the parent not the policeman. Well done to the police officer, good job.

Name and address supplied

Lions thanks

EDITOR — Please may I through your paper say a big thank you to the Lions? As a first timer at their pensioners' lunch I was very impressed. I have spent a lifetime in catering and have always been a bit iffy about dining out in any form.

I need not have worried, held at the Colyford Memorial Hall, the tables were beautifully dressed, the welcome was warm and friendly, the meal started on time and was superb, the entertainment was brilliant followed by a few dedications and finally the cyclamen on the tables were given away if you had a star at your place setting. So, to all who organised, planned and finally executed this lovely afternoon especially the kitchen many thanks and congratulations for a job very well done.

Name and address supplied

Sincere gratitude for music evening

EDITOR — On behalf of the Axminster and District Choral Society may I please, through the medium of your newspaper, thank all those people who contributed to the outstanding success of A Baroque Christmas held at the Minster recently.

Few people will know that the cost of presenting an evening of this calibre is well in excess of £3,000.

So it is with sincere gratitude that we thank our sponsors, patrons and friends, members of the society and the enthusiastic audience for supporting us.

The church was full to capacity to hear some of Monteverdi's Vespers, Vivaldi's Gloria and the first part of Handel's Messiah.

We were most wonderfully accompanied by the outstanding instrumentalists of Orchestra West, leader Barry Haskey, under the baton of Dr Francis Burroughes.

The society promotes the talents of young soloists from The Guildhall School of Music and their choice of Charlotte Beament soprano; Hanna Hip soprano; Olivia Barry contralto; Paul Curievici tenor and Matthew Stiff bass added more than a sparkle to the evening's performance, which was a resounding success.

The society resumes rehearsals on January 12th at 7.30pm in the Minster. All voices are welcome, especially sopranos. We will be preparing for our spring concert, Dvorak's Stabat Mater and Vaughn Williams' Five Mystical Songs.

Heather Lee
Churchill
Axminster

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Runner Up Winner Runner Up

The winner will get a makeover and also a framed certificate. The two runners up received a posy of flowers from CLOUD 9 plus a £10 gift voucher to spend at mARmaLaDe.

We have decided to hold the makeover on Saturday 7th Feb 2010. This will be done LIVE in our windows!

Following the makeover the winner and 2 runners up will become live mannequins in the windows modelling the new season collections and accessories! This should be alot of fun for the ladies as well as passers by and the press.

With regards to forthcoming events... all we can say is to look out for something HUGE at the end of January!

mARmaLaDe would like to wish all customers a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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Lyman Design is a sole trader business run by Obray Lyman. Located in East Devon between Axminster and Honiton he covers the surrounding area including Dorset and Somerset, and has even done some work in Berkshire and London.

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To see examples of his work and read testimonials from his many happy customers, please visit his website. Obray works mostly on commission but also makes and designs his own furniture. His latest Twist Table in oak can be viewed at Dansel Gallery in Abbotsbury.

Packed crowd to hear trophy winners read

◆ SOME of Axe Valley Community College's winners of this year's awards

IT was trophy time at Axe Valley Community College during the recent presentation ceremony for Sixth Form GCSE students (2008-09).

As previously reported, the main hall was packed when high-achieving students received their prizes from guest speaker Michael Morgan, who is an artist running workshops at the college.

The following students were presented with awards:

Best Key Stage 3: Certificate of Excellence in English Aaron Moore; Certificate of Excellence in Maths Marshall Hammond; Certificate of Excellence in Science Kelly Gould; Overall Highest KS3 Achiever Elizabeth Sobek. KS4 Prizes: David Gibbons Cup for Merit Nicola Bowditch; Headteacher's Award for Art Laura Gould; Sir Peter Emery Cup for Science Ben Hall; Basil Tomkins Senior English Prize Elena Brake; Mayoress's Award for History Projects Polly Budden; Axminster Power Tools Cup for Construction Projects Matt Adkins; Mayor's Cup for Technology Laura Gould; Tony Vickery Cup for Progress in Physical Education Ryan Braunton-Turner; Bath Travel Trophy for Modern Languages Lara Howard; Peter Courtney Cup for Mathematics Charlie Sweetland; Headteacher's Award for Geography Megan Crispin; TAVCC Award for Achievement in ICT Chloe Sansom; Betty Holmes Award for Achievement in a Spoken Language Elena Brake; Chamber of Commerce Award for Vocational Education Joe Spiers; Bryan Steane Award for Musical Performance Elena Brake; TAVCC Award for Achievement in Drama Natalie Callaghan; St Thomas Surgery Shield for the Most Improved Science Student Peter Dunslow; Rev. Swift Award for Service to the Community Chrissy Squire; BTec Diploma Level 2 Travel and Tourism Greg Beer; Beviss & Beckinsale Trophy for Achievement in the Arts Natalie Callaghan; Operatic Society Shield for Music and Drama Abby Vaux; Bryan Steane Award for Humanities (RE) Polly Budden; Chamber of Commerce Cup for Achievement in Business Studies Natasha Kerle; James Vickery Scroll for Achievement in PE Charlie Sweetland; Children and Young People's Award Elena Brake; Inclusion Team Award Levi Hoole.

Post 16 Awards. Joy Hull Plate for Best Overall Achievement at Advanced Level Jenni Collins; Axe Valley Rose Bowl for Most Improvement in an Advanced Level Course Melissa Hallett; Jolliff Cup for Mathematics Jenni Collins; Douglas Hull Cup for Most Improvement in a Vocational Course Alex Rowe; Hugo Swire Cup for Most Significant Contribution to the College and Wider Community Claire Down; Archway Bookshop Award for Health and Social Care Melissa Hallett; Graham Godbeer Award for Business and Enterprise Alex Rowe; Headteacher's (1997-2008) Award for 'A' Level English Jess Watkins; TAVCC Award for Excellence in ICT Alex Rowe;; Axe Valley Community College Award for The Visual Arts Annabelle Searle; Mayor's Cup for Social Sciences Kayleigh Kryulko; Alexander Paul Antiques Award for Technology Laura Copp; Fred Wells Award for Humanitites Sam Hunt; Graham Watts Award for Science Jenni Collins; Senior Music Award Ed Perry.

◆ AXE Vale Amateur Operatic Society provide the entertainment during the annual Seaton and District Lions Club Christmas lunch

100 turn out for popular Lions Club annual lunch

CLOSE to 100 senior citizens attended the annual Christmas lunch organised by Seaton and District Lions Club.

The event is in its 25th year and was held at the Colyford Memorial Hall on Sunday, December 6th.

Entertainment was provided by the Axevale Amateur Operatic Society.

A spokesman for the Lions club said: "This Christmas event is ever popular, and it is only through the generosity of the public that the Lions Club can continue to provide such an appreciated treat."

Primary kids produce a newspaper

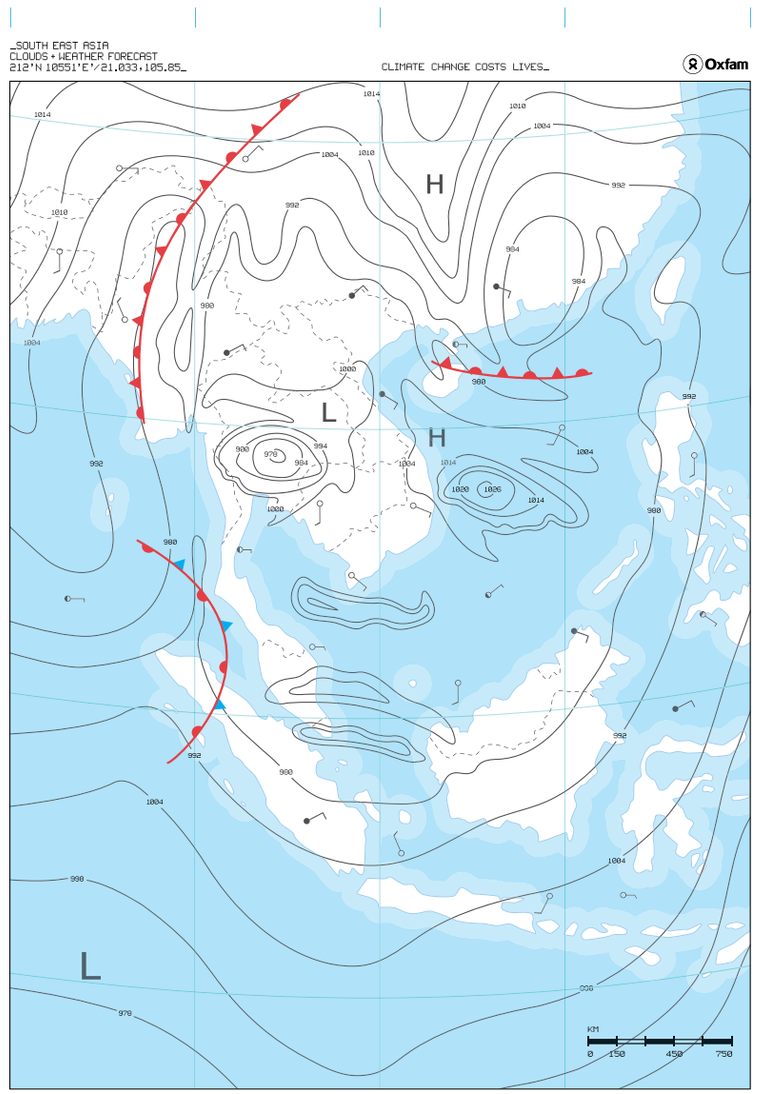
PRIMARY pupils from schools in Shute, Seaton, Chardstock, Hawkchurch, Membury and Musbury took part in a newsday challenge at Axe Valley Community College.

Axe Valley's primary enterprise co-ordinator, Bridget Bennett, explained: " The aim of the day was to produce a newspaper about life at the college.

"In the morning they learned interview techniques. Then we had a mock press interview session where they were able to use these skills to interview our Christmas card winners and our head of music, Mr Jevons, about how he organises our annual carol concert.

"They then used their notes and photos to compile their newspapers and returned to their schools armed with numerous useful enterprising and creative skills."

The challenge was staged on Monday, Decemebr 7th.



Aloe vera lesson

IN November the speaker for Thorncombe WI, Ann Orchard, was unwell so the group was pleased to welcome Lesley Bowick in her place.

Lesley chose to speak about aloe vera and its properties. Over 300 varieties of this species of plant produce a multitude of different healing uses from extracts to drink and salves to apply. Members tasted and tested the various products and were interested in the variety of complaints they could alleviate.

Reports were given on various functions attended and members chose from the menu for the Christmas dinner at the Lordleaze Hotel.

The next meeting, on January 12th, will be a members' afternoon. The group will meet at 1pm for a ploughman's lunch followed by a beetle drive.

The competition for a handmade Christmas card was won by Mary Turner and Julie Honeybourne won flower of the month.

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◆ FROM left, Mary Andrews, WI advisor; Marguerite Coker, president; Janet Welch, secretary; and Elaine Kluth-Wheeler, treasurer

WI celebrates 80 years

FENITON and Buckerell Women's Institute is 80 years old.

The group has been meeting in Feniton Village Hall since 1929 and to celebrate the landmark birthday a special meeting was held in the village hall on Wednesday, December 2nd.

After beginning the evening with Jerusalem, the business was dealt with briefly by the new president, Marguerite Coker.

Members were all then entertained by Kate Fincham-Powell, who used poetry and song to tell us about Christmas in days gone by before tucking into a delicious supper. The birthday cake, made and beautifully decorated by Maggie Pipe, was cut and a birthday toast took place.

A slide show of country's fine gardens

AT the most recent meeting of Phoenix Ladies, the group enjoyed delicious sandwiches and cakes made by Lesley Frankau and helpers.

At the start of the meeting letters of thanks were read out while baskets of fruit or plant arrangements were given to the chairman, secretary and treasurer and others who had helped throughout the year.

The speaker was David Baldock who told members that all his fees go to charities. So far a staggering £10,500 has gone to Shelterbox, the Children's Hospice and other good causes.

His slides encompassed many of the country's finest gardens beginning with the Saville bog gardens, near Windsor Castle, with flowers so vivid you could almost smell them.

Exbury's Rothschild Gardens had a profusion of co-ordinated borders framed by striking acers and trees which provided spectacular reflections in the lake. Kew in springtime was a beautiful array of daffodils. Stowe an assortment of follies. Some of the floral displays even incorporated complicated self-watering systems a boon for gardeners everywhere.

There is always plenty to see and learn at Wisley with its numerous demonstration gardens and vegetable plots. The group was even shown how the annual borders were marked out and then the grown plants, a riot of colour.

At Sissinghurst, the many formal and cottage gardens were a delight and who could fail to be impressed by the magnificent tints of Westonbirt Arboretum or Rosemoor in winter? Every slide brought a breath of colour to a cold winter's day and couldn't help but lift everyone's spirits.

The next meeting, on January 13th, will be the 10th anniversary of Phoenix Ladies. There will be a talk by the RNLI.

Quality music at monthly folk meet

JURASSIC Folk club members do not know who is coming to the meetings each month and we have no idea what sort of balance of performers will turn up, or indeed if anybody at all will arrive at the Grove, Seaton.

Yet it always seems to end up being a great night, according to visitors. November was no exception and, although there were fewer artists in number than the last two months, they more than made it up in quality.

The usual mixture of pathos, humour and good music figured in the performances of the regulars, Frances Lee, Rob Wheaton, Ted Dowse, while Peter Arnold enlisted the assistance of Anita Cotterall to extract the maximum from a ballad.

And a new face was welcomed, Kay Clive-Francis, who sang to her guitar in great style.

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country scene

Written by countryside correspondent TONY JACKSON

Wildlife around despite the cold

THE sun may be gleaming, lighting up the countryside, but as I write this column, it is bitterly cold. Snow is forecast and the wind is bearing down, straight from the Arctic.

Little surprise then that the field in front of my office window is alive with constantly moving flocks of redwings, winter visitors from the northern Palaearctic regions, while mingling with them are several mistle-thrushes and starlings.

Most intriguing of all, however, was to spot, a few days ago, a small mouse-like bird climbing the trunk of my apple tree in short jerky movements as it searched every bark crevice for insects. A tree-creeper, a little bird now rarely seen, its distinctive curved beak, stiff tail and brown and white colouring is unmistakeable. It is possible, of course, that tree-creepers are more abundant than one might suppose, for they are usually highly secretive. My sighting in the garden was quite unusual and encouraging.

The cold weather in the east and north has also driven woodcock to the usually milder south-west region and I have had reports of several seen in recent days. If the ground remains frozen then they will continue to move westwards, even to Ireland, in search of soft ground where they can find their staple diet, worms.

The latest bird reports from David Walters, covering the Axe estuary, notes the sighting of a black-necked grebe off Seaton, a rarely spotted winter migrant, while two black swans have joined the two whooper swans in the estuary. Where on earth have they come from? Meanwhile, a reminder to feed garden birds in this bitter weather. Many birds now rely almost entirely on man's generosity and it is vital to provide seed and fatty foods in icy weather. Also don't forget water in bird baths.

The recent storms have brought some odd visitors to Dorset's beaches, including six rare types of goose barnacle. These creatures normally drift around the warm oceans attached to floating debris, such as seaweed, driftwood or even plastic bottles.

A grey phalarope, a wader, was also spotted feeding on bugs just below the water surface, not far from the Dorset Wildlife Trust's Fine Foundation Marine Centre. This small bird is circumpolar, for it breeds in the Arctic but then migrates to the southern hemisphere. The one seen off our coast must have been blown here by the storms. A number of puffins and petrels, birds which normally feed well out to sea, have also been washed up dead, battered by the winds and unable to feed.

The aftermath of the stormy weather is, in fact, an ideal time for beach-combing and, as Julie Hatcher, a Marine Officer with the DWT, points out, one never knows just what strange creatures may be washed up among the strandline. If you do discover a strange bird, fish, mollusc or whatever, take a photo and send it to the DWT for recording.

Any marine sightings of interest should be despatched to kimmeridge@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk or ring 01929 481044.

Meanwhile, may I wish all my readers a most jolly Christmas and, of course, a happy new year. Old traditions still maintain the festival spirit, and not least will be the Boxing Day meets of hounds. The Cotley Harriers will be foregathering in Chard and the Seavington Foxhounds will meet in the centre of Crewkerne, both at 11am.

Last year well over 2,000 folk turned out to welcome the Seavington and I have little doubt that the Victoria Square in Crewkerne will once again be packed for this traditional occasion.

It seems scarcely possible that another year has sped by, and let us hope that 2010 brings some peace and hope to a suffering world. We all deserve it.

To contact Tony Jackson, write to: Pulman's View from, South Street, Axminster, Devon EX13 5AD or email wardjackson@tiscali.co.uk

The views expressed are those of the columnist and not necessarily of the newspaper.

Pulman's View from the churches

With Nigel Speller

EVERYONE is now busy with the run-up to Christmas — crowds in many of the shops, full car parks, Christmas cards dropping through the letterbox, Christmas productions and concerts in the schools, festive lights and house decorations, trees, carols playing in the shops and precincts, endless lists and preparation.

Most of us get caught up in the bustle of Christmas, but what are we actually preparing for? Will Christmas 2009 be simply another round of parties and jollity, a break from routine and work? Or can we look beyond the commercial Christmas to be touched by the enormity of a child being born in Bethlehem 2000 years ago? God sent His Son into the world so that we might have new life and new hope; the gift of love.

Our local towns and villages are often criticised for failing to portray the Christmas message. For many people every year our town-centre Christmas decorations and events seem further removed from those world-changing events in Bethlehem long ago. It is therefore good news to report that this year there is a film on circuit in local cinemas having the birth of Christ at the heart of it.

Created by Catholic film director Debbie Isitt, Nativity! (U Certificate) is a family comedy that centres around two English primary schools (one state, one private) vying to stage the best Christmas nativity play in town. It gently explores themes of redemption, reconciliation and the deeper meaning of the season — without ever being preachy!

It is now good to be able to report two visits to east Devon in the same month by the Bishop of Exeter. Early in December he came to Ottery St Mary to celebrate at a candlelit service the 750th anniversary of Ottery St Mary Parish Church. The original church was dedicated in 1259 by Bishop Walter Bronescombe.

This December's occasion was also used to launch Bronescombe Beer which is brewed by O' Hanlon's Brewery in Whimple.

Last Sunday morning the Bishop of Exeter was further east in our territory at Uplyme church where, in the presence of a large congregation, he welcomed and licensed the Reverend Gavin Tyte. Gavin will look after the people and churches of the parishes of Uplyme and Axmouth, and with his family will live at Uplyme rectory. After the service there was a reception at Uplyme Village Hall.

As we have noted before, the Axminster parishes hope to be next in line for their vacancy to be filled.

The Colyton Benefice, covering churches there and at Colyford, at Branscombe, Musbury and Southleigh, have just started on their work of preparing for the search for a new rector to succeed the Revd Nicholas Edwards who leaves in February to take over the churches of West Exe in the City of Exeter. As part of the preparations each parish has to elect two representatives from their church councils who take part in the selection procedure and appointment process.

Before we finally leave the pre-Christmas season, it is of interest to Anglican churchgoers that the readings and collects for the advent season before Christmas provided in their new common worship lectionary are no longer linked with the foretelling or proclamation of Jesus, as recorded by the patriarchs and prophets in the Old Testament or the words of John the Baptist and Mary Mother of Jesus. It has also been noted that the traditional advent wreath of purple, rose and white candles does not seem to represent the new themes of the lectionary and prayer book. Perhaps we have 12 months to provide an answer?

Looking ahead to the new year it is traditional for the main stream churches to observe a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in the Epiphany season. In the coming year this begins on January 18th. Like our previous thoughts on the advent season, there is again comment about some of the material for this week does not easily fit into the Anglican Common Worship Daily Prayer book. The suggestion is that the new material is imaginative but may not be easily followed in gatherings of different denominations, and so it may not cross the barrier of the underlying theme of doing things together in unity. Only time will tell!

There are likely to be joint services in the churches of east Devon so do look out for posters and other information in the early days of January. For those who wish to see the material for themselves the booklet is titled You are Witness; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2010; copies can be obtained from Norwich Books and Music at 01603 612914 extension 1, price £1 or downloaded for free online from www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer.

For all Christmas church services please refer to posters and leaflets which are available at all churches.

Carols in Seaton ~ December 24th

AWAY IN A MANGER

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay;
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes:
I love you, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.
Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with you there.

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark! The herald angels sing: 'Glory to the new-born King!
'Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!'
Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
Hark! the herald angels sing: 'Glory to the new-born King!'
Christ, by highest heaven adored,Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail the incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing: 'Glory to the new-born King.'
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings,
Mild, He lays His glory by; born that men no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing: 'Glory to the new-born King.'

IN THE BLEAK MID-WINTER

In the bleak mid-winter
Frost wind made moan
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter
Long ago.
Our God heaven cannot hold Him
Nor earth sustain,
Heaven and Earth shall flee away
When He comes to reign;
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.
Angels and archangels
May have gathered there
Cherubim and seraphim
Thronged the air;
But His mother only
In her maiden bliss
Worshiped the Beloved
With a kiss.
What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man,
I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give Him – give my heart.

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

O come all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.
Sing choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above.
Glory to God in the highest.
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wondering love.
How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming; But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still The dear Christ enters in.
O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in; Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

■ ***The carol service will be on Thursday, December 24th at 4pm at Seaton Baptist Church***

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Our largest fund raiser was "One Night Only" and what a night it was! I finally got to see a DVD of the show about 2 weeks ago and now I can see why everybody had such a fantastic evening. I would like to thank everyone involved for all their time, effort and support at this event. We have presented a cheque to Hospiscare for £6,000 from the proceeds of One Night Only, which is amazing. The total is still rising thanks to donations and from DVD sales, which are still available from the office along with brochures of the evening. Also photos of the event can still be viewed and purchased on our website www.4onenightonly.com

We are pleased to report that Hospiscare will be our charity of the year for 2010 as well. We have several ideas to help raise money for this fantastic charity so please keep an eye on the shop window and on the website.

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Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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Christmas View from the Restaurant

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Festive View... from the armchair!

CHRISTMAS TV PREVIEW with James Coles

IT'S THAT time of the year when everyone starts asking themselves why they bother to pay for their TV Licence and claim - quite possibly through the use of rose tinted glasses - that Christmas telly just ain't what it used to be.

But before you reach for the stand-by button on that remote control and embrace the company of family and friends rather than staying glued to the goggle box this Christmas, just take a look at the *Festive View's* top picks of the festive season.

GOODBYE, DAVID

THE event on BBC1 this Christmas is undoubtedly David Tennant's swansong as the Tenth Doctor. The climax to his tenure has been building up nicely through a number of special one-off episodes since the latest series of *Doctor Who* concluded last year.

The plot itself is seemingly under wraps but we do know that John Simm returns as The Master, as does The Doctor's old companion, Donna (Catherine Tate), along with her grandfather (the ever reliable Bernard Cribbins).

Who fans can catch the first part of 'The End of Time' on Christmas Day at 6pm, with the second and final part going out on New Year's Day at 6:40pm.

In fact, David Tenant seems to be overtaking the Beeb this Christmas. You can catch him in a special Christmas edition of *QI* on Christmas Eve (BBC1, 10pm) and on Boxing Day in the leading role of the Royal Shakespeare Company's celebrated production of *Hamlet* (BBC2, 5:05pm).

JUST FOR LAUGHS

LONG gone are the days when you could always look forward to Christmas with the Trotters, and the Beeb has struggled to find a replacement for *Only Fools and Horses* in the comedy department.

Although not a Christmas special as such, this year the focus is on *Gavin and Stacey*. Rumour has it this third season - which concludes over the festive period - will be the last.

You can catch the final two episodes on Christmas Day (BBC1, 10pm) and New Year's Day (BBC1, 9pm) respectively.

Another modern favourite is *Outnumbered,* starring Hugh Dennis and Claire Skinner alongside three remarkably good child actors. If you've never caught it before, the Christmas Special (December 27th, BBC1, 10:30pm) will be a good place to start.

Personally, when it comes to Christmas comedy, I'm looking forward to Victoria Wood's long overdue return to our screens.

Victoria Wood's Midlife Christmas (Christmas Eve, BBC1, 9pm) sees her spoof the likes of Lark Rise To Candleford and Cranford in 'Lark Pies To Cranchesterford,' and take off Alan Sugar's sidekick Margaret Mountford in a send-up of *The Apprentice.*

And 'Acorn Antiques' fans won't want to miss Julie Walters as Bo Beaumont, the self-important actress who played Mrs Overall in the wonderful soap opera parody.

Catherine Tate has become a Christmas staple in more recent years. Her take - or rather her character Nan's take - on Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* is broadcast Christmas Day (BBC1, 10:30pm).

Her *Doctor Who* co-star David Tenant (not him, again?!!) is among those making guest appearances.

Of course, Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without Morecambe and Wise. We all moan when the Beeb drag out the repeats but we still watch them.

You can catch Eric and Ernie's 1973 Christmas Special - again - on Boxing Day (BBC2, 9:10pm).

And you can also watch Ant and Dec trying to emulate the duo with their own Christmas show earlier the same evening (ITV1, 7:30pm).

DRAMA

AS FOR drama, well, if you can watch it with a straight face having seen Victoria Wood's send-up, the second of a two-part festive special of *Cranford* is on December 27th (BBC1, 9pm). Judi Dench, Imelda Staunton and Jonathan Pryce star.

ITV serves up the long overdue sequel to the groundbreaking *The Naked Civil Servant* on Christmas Bank Holiday Monday.

John Hurt returns as Quentin Crisp in *An Englishman In New York* (ITV1, 9pm). *Sex and the City's* Cynthia Nixon costars in this one-off play, picking up from where the original 1975 production left off.

David Suchet is back as Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot on Christmas Day (ITV1, 9pm) in 'Appointment With Death'. Remarkably, Suchet has only ten more Poirot stories to film, having now made 61 with ITV since 1989!

CLASSIC CHRISTMAS

WHAT I look forward to the most at Christmas is the BBC's ghost story offering.

This tradition, which has recently been revived, goes back to the 1970s; each year a different tale - usually adapted from one of M.R. James' short stories - would terrify audiences and act as the perfect antidote to seasonal over-indulgences.

Last year we had Mark Gatiss' frankly brilliant *Crooked House;* 2009 brings us a more traditional offering in an adaptation of *The Turn Of The Screw* (December 30th, BBC1, 9pm).

Starring Michelle Dochery, this chilling story is set in a remote country house, where a governess is spooked by the apparitions of two children.

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

MY TOP choice for a show that can be enjoyed by all the family is *The Gruffalo* (Christmas Day, BBC1, 5:30pm).

This animated adaptation of the children's bestseller, which tells the story of a mouse's epic journey through a forest, features the voices of Robbie Coltrane, Helena Bonham Carter, Rob Brydon, Tom Wilkinson and John Hurt.

BEST OF THE REST

FOR the petrolheads amongst you, or those that simply love watching three grown men acting like schoolboys, there's another modern Christmas tradition on offer - the *Top Gear* Christmas Special.

This year Jeremy, Richard and James are off to Bolivia, with the challenge of driving some old bangers through the heart of the Amazon jungle to the coast of Chile. Find out how they got on by tuning in on December 27th (BBC2, 7:45pm).

Although the Beeb saw fit to scrap *Top of the Pops* a few years back, it's Christmas guise is still going strong.

In fact, BBC1 has two seasonal TOTP specials: one on Christmas Day (2pm) and another on New Year's Eve (6:30pm), both hosted by Fearne Cotton and Reggie Yates.

Sci-fi fans should make a date with the Beeb's updated take on John Wyndham's classic tale *The Day of the Triffids,* showing in two parts on Christmas Bank Holiday Monday and concluding on Tuesday 29th (both BBC1, 9pm).

FILMS

SINCE the advent of the DVD and satellite television, the big Christmas movie premiere hasn't had the same status. Chances are you've already seen it.

Even so, kids and adults alike may warm to Pixar favourite *The Incredibles* (Christmas Day, BBC1, 3:10pm) or, alternatively, *Happy Feet* (Christmas Day, ITV1, 3:40pm).

And whether you're a Johnny Depp lady or a Keira Knightley man, you'll find yourself at home with *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End* (Boxing Day, BBC1, 7:30pm). And this particular episode can boast Keith Richards as Captain Jack Sparrow's father!

MY CHOICE

MY NUMBER one choice for essential viewing this Christmas is the Orson Welles season on BBC4. If you're any sort of film buff, you'll love this series of programmes devoted to possibly the greatest innovator in the history of cinema.

Director, writer, actor, producer - Orson did it all, and was equally at home in film, theatre, TV and radio. Highlights of the season include actor and Welles biographer Simon Callow's exploration of Orson's time outside of Hollywood in *Orson Welles Over Europe* (December 27th, 9:30pm) and a rerun of Alan Yentob's extraordinary two-part 1982 *Arena* profile of the great man (Part 1: Christmas Day, 9pm; Part 2: December 27th, 11pm).

There are five classic Orson movies being screened too: *Citizen Kane* (Christmas Day, 7pm), *Journey Into Fear* (Christmas Day, 10:50pm), *The Third Man* (Boxing Day, 7:15pm), *The Magnificent Ambersons* (December 27th, 8pm) and *The Stranger* (December 27th, 11:55pm).

So, whether you're looking for something old or new, this year's Christmas telly really does have something for everyone.

By James Coles

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Christmas Trivia Quiz

ANSWERS BELOW

1. On Christmas Day 1977, Charlie Chaplin died in:
a) Switzerland
b) England
c) USA
d) Canada?

2. On 26th December of what year was the USSR officially dissolved?

3. The Shrine of the Three Kings, a reliquary said to contain the bones of the Three Wise Men, can be visited in the cathedral in:
a) Canterbury
b) Cologne
c) Vienna
d) Rome?

4. Every year in November Sinterklaas, the Dutch Father Christmas, arrives in Holland. Where does he come from and how does he get to Holland?

5. For which football club has Christmas come early when they won the Intertoto Cup 2006, the first silverware since 1969?

6. In what year did NORAD, the North American Aerospace Defense Command, start tracking Santa's flight path around the world?

7. In what year were the first electric Christmas lights used?

8. Which of Santa's other 8 reindeer was the father of Rudolph the red-nosed one?

9. Kwanzaa, a cultural holiday celebrated from 26th December till 1st January, originated from:
a) Sudan
b) Indonesia
c) USA
d) Kenya?

10. Which city is believed to be the birthplace of Jesus of Nazareth?

11. If a Norwegian uses a bakken, what sport is he into?

12. In what year did Coca Cola begin featuring Santa in their advertising at Christmas?

13. In the 1930's, the Addis Brush Company produced the first artificial-brush trees, using the same machinery that made their:
a) toilet brushes
b) hair brushes
c) tooth brushes
d) paint brushes?

14. Similar to the tradition of putting out cookies and milk out for Santa, the children in Sweden try please the Swedish Santa, Tomte, by leaving out:
a) a bowl of rice pudding
b) a glass of vodka
c) a plate of dried herrings
d) a bottle of glogg (mulled wine)?

15. On 26th December 1898, Marie and Pierre Curie announced the discovery of which element?

16. Which European football league does not take a winter break:
a) Italy
b) Netherlands
c) Portugal
d) Austria?

17. Bandy is an ancestor of which winter sport?

18. In which country was the city of Natal ("Christmas") founded on 25th December 1599?

19. True or False: The man who founded the Buddhist Society in London in 1924 was a barrister called Christmas Humphreys?

20. In what century was Saint Nicholas of Myra born?

21. In what year did Band Aid release their record "Do They Know It's Christmas?"?

22. George Frederick Handel's Christmas oratorio, The Messiah, was first performed in 1742 in:
a) London
b) Dublin
c) Vienna
d) Jerusalem?

23. The music to 'Silent Night' was originally written for a:
a) guitar
b) piano
c) harpsichord
d) pipe organ?

24. In Dickens '"Christmas Carol", how many children does Bob Cratchit have and what's the name of the youngest?

25. True or False: Dr. Seuss, the creator of the Christmas hating Grinch, was a psychiatrist?

26. In order to make their geese happier, fatter and tastier for the Christmas season, farmers in Cheshire began to:
a) dress them in woolly hats and scarves
b) feed them mulled wine
c) put up heaters in the coops
d) let them live in their houses?

27. Four of the top five teams at the 2006 ClauWau, the Santa Claus World Championships, came from the host country, Switzerland. The other team was from:
a) Japan
b) Holland
c) Jamaica
d) Kenya?

28. In what year did John Calcott Horsley invent and design the first Christmas card?

29. Which artist was famous for his many paintings of the Madonna with Baby Jesus:
a) Raphael
b) Michelangelo
c) Leonardo da Vinci
d) Marc Chagall?

30. What was the exact title of John Lennon and Yoko Ono's 1971 Christmas single?

31. The mistletoe grows:
a) only on conifers
b) only on deciduous trees
c) on both?

32. True or False: only male reindeer have antlers?

33. The Christmas Star (Poinsettia) originated from:
a) Cuba
b) China
c) Mexico
d) Brazil?

34. In which country does Joulupukki, the Yul Goat, bring the presents?

35. Which Wallace and Gromit movie, set at Christmas and first aired on 24 December, won the 1995 Oscar for best Animated Short Film and which recurring character was introduced in the movie?

ANSWERS: 1. a) Switzerland, **2.** 1991, **3.** b) Cologne, **4.** from Spain (he lives in a palace in Madrid) - (by steamboat), **5.** Newcastle United, **6.** 1955, **7.** 1882, **8.** Donner, **9.** c) USA, **10.** Bethlehem, **11.** Ski jumping, **12.** 1931, **13.** a) toilet brushes, **14.** a) a bowl of rice pudding, **15.** Radium, **16.** c) Portugal, **17.** Ice hockey, **18.** Brazil, **19.** true, **20.** 3rd century AD, **21.** 1984, **22.** b) Dublin, **23.** a) guitar, **24.** 6 (Tiny Tim), **25.** False, **26.** a) dress them in woolly hats & scarves, **27.** c) Jamaica (Team High 5), **28.** 1843, **29.** a) Raphael, **30.** Happy Xmas (War is Over), **31.** c) on both, **32.** False, **33.** c) Mexico, **34.** Finland, **35.** A Close Shave (Shaun the Sheep).

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1. NATIVITY
2. YULETIDE
3. REINDEER
4. NOEL
5. PARTY
6. TINSEL
7. BETHLEHEM
8. SNOWMAN
9. HOLLY
10. TURKEY
11. SLEIGH
12. MISTLETOE
13. CAROLS
14. BAUBEL
15. PRESENTS
16. SANTA CLAUS
17. MINCE PIES
18. ROBIN
19. CRACKERS
20. ADVENT
21. BOXING DAY
22. SHEPHERDS
23. MANGER
24. STABLE
25. WREATH
26. CHRISTINGLE
27. FAIRY LIGHTS
28. STOCKING
29. CARDS
30. ANGEL
31. STAR
32. MULLED WINE
33. IVY
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Christmas Facts

■ THE common abbreviation for Christmas to Xmas is derived from the Greek alphabet. X is letter Chi, which is the first letter of Christ's name in the Greek alphabet.

■ OLIVER Cromwell, banned Christmas carols in England between 1649 and 1660. Cromwell thought that Christmas should be a very solemn day so he banned carols and parties. The only celebration was a sermon and a prayer service.

■ THE Puritans in America tried to make Thanksgiving Day the most important annual festival instead of Christmas.

■ SILENT Night was written in 1818, by an Austrian priest called Joseph Mohr. He was told the day before Christmas that the church organ was broken and would not be repaired in time for Christmas Eve. He was saddened by this and could not contemplate Christmas without music, so he wrote a carol that could be sung by choir to guitar music. He sat down and wrote three stanzas. Later that night the people in the little Austrian church sang "Stille Nacht" for the first time.

■ ST Francis of Assisi introduced Christmas carols to formal church services.

■ Telesphorus, the second Bishop of Rome (125-136 AD) declared that public church services should be held to celebrate 'The Nativity of our Lord and Saviour.' In 320 AD, Pope Julius I and other religious leaders specified December 25th as the official date of the birth of Jesus Christ.

■ DECEMBER 26th was traditionally known as St Stephen's Day, but is more commonly known as Boxing Day. This expression came about because money was collected in alms-boxes placed in churches during the festive season. The money was then distributed to the poor and needy after Christmas.

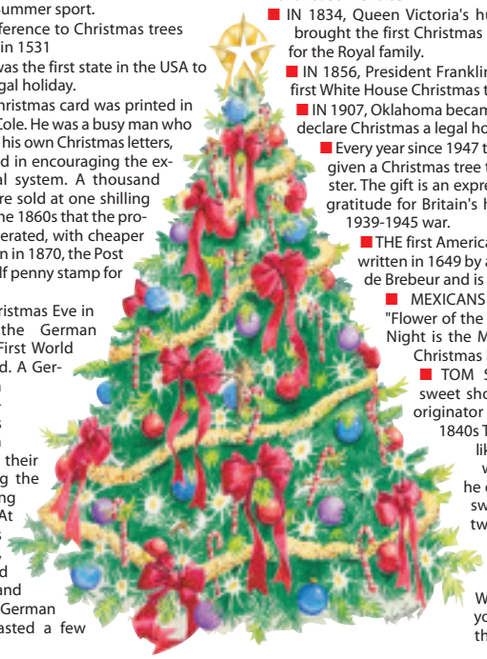
■ MELBOURNE, Australia has a sporting Boxing Day tradition. The Melbourne Cricket Ground hosts a Cricket test match. Sometimes this attracts 90, 000 spectators. Cricket is Australia's premier Summer sport.

■ THE first printed reference to Christmas trees appeared in Germany in 1531

■ IN 1836, Alabama was the first state in the USA to declare Christmas a legal holiday.

■ IN 1843, the first Christmas card was printed in England for Sir Henry Cole. He was a busy man who wanted to save time in his own Christmas letters, but was also interested in encouraging the expansion of the postal system. A thousand copies of the card were sold at one shilling each. It was not until the 1860s that the production of cards accelerated, with cheaper printing methods. Then in 1870, the Post Office introduced a half penny stamp for sending cards.

■ AT midnight on Christmas Eve in 1914 firing from the German trenches during the First World War suddenly stopped. A German brass band began playing Christmas carols. Early, on Christmas morning, the German soldiers came out of their trenches, approaching the allied lines, calling "Merry Christmas". At first the allied soldiers thought it was a trick, but they soon climbed out of their trenches and shook hands with the German soldiers. The truce lasted a few days, and the men exchanged presents of cigarettes and plum puddings, sang carols and songs. They even played a game of soccer.



■ IN 1937, the first postage stamp to commemorate Christmas was issued in Austria

■ The actual gift givers are different in various countries:
- Spain and South America: The Three Kings
- Italy: La Befana (a kindly old witch)
- England: Father Christmas
- France: Pere Noel (Father Christmas)
- Russia: In some parts - Babouschka (a grandmotherly figure); in other parts Grandfather Frost.
- Germany: Christkind (angelic messenger from Jesus) She is a beautiful fair haired girl with a shining crown of candles.
- Scandinavia: a variety of Christmas gnomes. One is called Julenisse
- Holland: St Nicholas

■ IN 1834, Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert brought the first Christmas tree to Windsor Castle for the Royal family.

■ IN 1856, President Franklin Pierce decorates the first White House Christmas tree.

■ IN 1907, Oklahoma became the last USA state to declare Christmas a legal holiday.

■ Every year since 1947 the people in Oslo have given a Christmas tree to the city of Westminster. The gift is an expression of goodwill and gratitude for Britain's help to Norway in the 1939-1945 war.

■ THE first American Christmas carol was written in 1649 by a minister named John de Brebeur and is called "Jesus is Born".

■ MEXICANS call the poinsettia "Flower of the Holy Night" - the Holy Night is the Mexican way of saying Christmas Eve.

■ TOM Smith who owned a sweet shop in London was the originator of the cracker. In the 1840s Tom found that people liked sugar almonds, but while he was in France he discovered a variety of sweets wrapped up in a twist of paper.

These bonbons were popular, so Tom decided to copy them. When Tom noticed that young men were buying them to give to their sweethearts he began to place "love mottoes" on small slips of paper inside the sweet wrapping.

In 1846 Tom's thoughts turned towards Christmas - instead of sweets he thought he would place toys and novelties inside the twisted wrapping. He experimented with this and came up with the idea of producing a wrapping that could be pulled apart - the cracker as we know it today.

■ THE word carol is derived from the old French word caroller which derives from the Latin choraula. This itself was derived from the Greek choraules

■ THE biggest selling Christmas single of all time is Bing Crosby's White Christmas.

■ A GOOSE was customary Christmas fare until Henry VIII took it upon himself to tuck into a turkey. Mince pies were once shaped like mangers and are thought to date back to the sweetmeats formerly presented to the Vatican on Christmas Eve.

■ HANGING the Christmas stocking on the hearth on Christmas Eve in the hope that it will be filled with presents the next morning is a custom that goes back about 400 years.

It derived from the custom in Holland of children placing wooden shoes next to the hearth the night before the arrival of St. Nicholas. The children would fill their shoes with straw and food for St Nicholas's for the donkey that carried the gifts. In exchange he would leave them a small gift such as small cakes, fruits and other gifts. Stockings were substituted for the shoes in Britain, most of Europe and in North America.

■ A WREATH with holly, red berries and other decorations began from at least the 17th century. Holly, with its sharply pointed leaves, symbolised the thorns in Christ's crown-of-thorns. Red berries symbolised the drops of Christ's blood. A wreath at Christmas signified a home that celebrated to birth of Christ.

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The best turkey in the world

by Jamie Oliver

In my books, the perfect bird is 6.5kg– 8kg in weight because that's a good size to handle, feeds about 10 to 14 people and has better flavour than bigger birds. If you're buying from a small producer, like the lovely turkey I used from my mate Paul Kelly, you'll often find these birds come with their own cooking instructions. Really good-quality birds do cook in a shorter time so follow the instructions if it has them.

This year I'm using a flavoured butter to give a bit of extra love to my turkey, and this is a job you can do the day before. You can find my recipe in the Christmas issue of Jamie Magazine or simply make your own . Get your turkey and use a spoon to work your way between the skin and the meat. Start at the side of the cavity just above the leg and work gently up towards the breastbone and towards the back so you create a large cavity. Pick up half of your butter and push it into the cavity you've created. Use your hands to push it through the skin right to the back so it coats the breast meat as evenly as possible. Do the same on the other side then rub any leftover butter all over the outside of the bird to use it up. If you've got any herb stalks left over, put them in the cavity of the turkey for added flavour as it cooks. Cover the turkey in cling film and keep in the fridge until you need it.

Take your turkey out of the fridge a few hours before you are ready to put it in the oven so it has time to come up to room temperature. That flavoured butter will already be under the skin so you'll only need a few tweaks to finish it off. Halve 2 to 4 clementines and pop them in the cavity with a few more sprigs of fresh herbs like rosemary, bay and thyme. The fruit will steam and flavour the birds in a really lovely way. Take a sprig of fresh rosemary, pull off the leaves at the bottom then spear that through the loose skin around the cavity to hold it together and keep it from shrinking back as the turkey cooks.

Open up the neck cavity and pack as much stuffing as possible in there, then carefully pull the skin back over the cavity, tuck it under the bird and pop it in the roasting tray. If you've already made your gravy like I've done, you won't need a vegetable trivet, if not, do that now by roughly chopping 2 or 3 carrots, 3 peeled onions and 2 celery sticks. Preheat your oven to full whack and get the turkey in the roasting tray. As soon as it goes in the oven, immediately turn the heat down to 180ºC/350ºF/gas 4.

As a rough guide, you want to cook the turkey for about 35 to 40 minutes per kilogram, so a 7kg turkey will want about 4 to 4½ hours in the oven. But there are so many variables such as the sort of oven you have and the quality of your bird. Check on your turkey every 30 minutes or so and keep it from drying out by basting it with the lovely juices from the bottom of the pan. After 3½ hours, remove the foil so the skin gets golden and crispy. If you are at all worried just stick a meat thermometer in the thickest part of the breast. When the internal temperature has reached 65ºC for a good quality bird, and about 82ºC for a cheaper bird, it's ready to come out.

Carefully put a metal skewer in the cavity and use it to lift the bird and angle it over the roasting tray so all of the juices from the cavity run out. Move the turkey to a platter then cover it with a double layer of tinfoil and 2 tea towels to keep it warm while it rests for at least 30 minutes.

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Christmas Television

Christmas Eve
Thursday, December 24th 2009

QI - 10pm BBC1

Choice

VICTORIA WOOD'S MIDLIFE CHRISTMAS
BBC1, 9pm

She may have picked up a Bafta for her sensitive performance in the insightful drama Housewife, 49 but some Victoria Wood fans were secretly thinking: "This is great, but when are you going to get back to putting on silly accents and hamming it up with Julie Walters?" Well, their prayers have now been answered, as Wood returns to the BBC for her first Christmas sketch show special since All the Trimmings nine years ago. We're promised mock commercials, dance numbers, unlikely sporting events, and the continuing adventures of soap star Bo Beaumont.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **8.50** CBBC: Dani's House. **9.20** Doctor Who: Dreamland. (R) **10.05** Shaun the Sheep. (R) **10.15** Shaun the Sheep. (R) **10.25** Film: Home on the Range. (2004) Disney animated comedy, with the voice of Roseanne Barr. **11.35** Film: The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause. (2006) Premiere. Christmas fantasy comedy sequel, starring Tim Allen. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.10** Regional News; Weather. **1.15** The Two Ronnies Christmas Sketchbook. (R) **2.15** Film: The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. (2005) Children's fantasy adventure, starring Tilda Swinton. **4.25** Film: Over the Hedge. (2006) Premiere. Animated comedy, with the voice of Bruce Willis. **5.45** Film: Shrek 2. (2004) Animated adventure sequel, with the voice of Mike Myers.

7.10 **BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**
7.30 **EastEnders;** BBC News; Regional News.
8.00 **My Family.** The Harpers celebrate Christmas 2039, with an 80-year-old Ben as grumpy as ever.
9.00 **Victoria Wood's Midlife Christmas.**
10.00 **QI.** With David Tennant, Bill Bailey and Lee Mack.
10.30 **Live at the Apollo.**
11.00 **The Impressions Show with Culshaw and Stephenson.**
11.30 **BBC News; Weather.**
11.45 **Christmas Midnight Mass from Westminster Cathedral;** Skiing Weather.

1.05 Film: Serendipity. (2001) Romantic drama, starring Kate Beckinsale. **2.30** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies: Me Too! **6.20** Big Cook Little Cook. (R) **6.40** Brum. (R) **6.55** Pingu. (R) **7.05** CBBC: Arthur. **7.30** Inside Life. (R) **8.00** Gimme a Break. (R) **8.30** Wainwright Walks. (R) **9.00** Great Railway Journeys. (R) **9.50** Film: Pinocchio. (2002) Premiere. Fantasy adventure, starring Roberto Benigni. Dubbed in English. **11.30** Coast. (R) **11.50** Film: South Pacific. (1958) Wartime romantic musical, starring Mitzi Gaynor. **2.15** The Tsarina's Slippers. **4.45** James May's Toy Stories. (R) **5.45** Dad's Army. (R)

6.15 **Carols from King's.** From the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge.
7.30 **The Good Life.** Margo and Jerry spend Christmas with the Goods. (R)
8.00 **Victorian Farm Christmas.** Ruth Goodman makes a Dickens-style Christmas pudding. Last in the series.
9.00 **FILM: The Hound of the Baskervilles.** (2002) Holmes and Watson investigates tales of a mysterious hound terrorising a family on Dartmoor. Mystery, with Richard Roxburgh.
10.40 **The Grumpy Guide to Christmas.** Real-life Scrooges give their jaundiced views of the festive season. (R)
11.40 **The Funny Side of Christmas.** Clive Anderson examines the TV world's yuletide traditions. (R)

12.40 Comedy Songs — The Pop Years. **2.10** Film: Gilda. (1946) Thriller, starring Rita Hayworth.

ITV1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** Christmas Cooks Challenge. **10.25** Film: Curious George. (2006) Premiere. Children's animated adventure, with the voice of Will Ferrell. **12.00** Best Ever Christmas Films. (R) **1.00** ITV News; Weather. **1.10** Regional Programme. **1.15** Agatha Christie's Poirot. (R) **3.15** The Old Curiosity Shop. (R) **5.15** Creature Comforts. (R) **5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 **FILM: Corpse Bride.** (2005) Premiere. A shy bridegroom finds himself inadvertently hitched to a ghostly bride. Stop-motion animated fantasy, featuring the voice of Johnny Depp.
7.30 **You've Been Framed! Christmas Special.** Festive foul-ups. (R)
8.00 **Emmerdale.** Cain goes on the warpath.
8.30 **Coronation Street.** David is not pleased by Nick's return.
9.00 **Taggart.** Burke and the team investigate a crime novelist.
10.00 **ITV News at Ten; Weather.**
10.15 **Christmas Carols with the Troops.** Service for British soldiers serving in Afghanistan from St Clement Danes church in London.
11.15 **FILM: Shakespeare in Love.** (1998) Period romantic comedy, starring Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth Paltrow.

1.20 Christmas Tales: The Story of the Tree; ITV News Headlines. **2.15** Motorsport UK. **3.05** ITV Nightscreen. **5.25** CITV: Captain Mack. **5.35** Paz. **5.40** Captain Mack. **5.55** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.10 Planet Cook. (R) **6.30** Yo Gabba Gabba. (R) **7.00** Wilde Stories. (R) **7.30** The Bear. (R) **8.00** T4: Friends. (R) **8.30** T4: Friends. (R) **9.05** T4: Friends. (R) **9.35** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **10.10** T4: JLS Christmas Crackers. (R) **11.15** T4: Shooting Cheryl Cole. (R) **11.45** Film: The Nativity Story. (2006) Premiere. Biblical drama, starring Keisha Castle-Hughes. **1.35** The Snowman. (R) **2.10** Film: Three Men and a Baby. (1987) Comedy, starring Tom Selleck, Ted Danson and Steve Guttenberg. **4.10** Jamie's Family Christmas. (R) **4.40** Jamie's Family Christmas. (R) **5.10** Jamie's Family Christmas. (R) **5.45** Jamie's Family Christmas. (R)

6.15 **Jamie's Family Christmas.** Tips on preparing food before a party. Last in the series. (R)
6.45 **Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa.** Festive edition of the game show.
7.45 **Channel 4 News.**
8.00 **Heston's Christmas Feast.** A festive feast inspired by dishes of the past. (R)
9.00 **The Secret Millionaire.** A taxi company owner goes undercover in Newcastle.
10.00 **Celebrity Come Dine with Me Christmas Special.** With Hannah Waterman, David Gest, Diarmuid Gavin and Sherrie Hewson. (R)
11.05 **Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special.** (R)

12.10 Film: Slither. (2006) Premiere. Horror, starring Nathan Fillion. **1.55** Dispatches: Terror in Mumbai. (R) **2.50** Deadliest Catch. **3.35** The Hills. **4.20** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.10** One Tree Hill.

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Christmas Television

Christmas Day
Friday, December 25th 2009

The Gruffalo - 5.30pm BBC1

Choice

CATHERINE TATE: NAN'S CHRISTMAS CAROL
BBC1, 10.30pm

Catherine Tate's cantankerous creation Joannie 'Nan' Taylor gets her very own seasonal spin-off special in this comic re-telling of Charles Dickens's classic tale A Christmas Carol. The festive show sees Nan's acid-tongued insults catch up with her when the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future, as well as her dead husband, come knocking. Can the spirits convince Nan to spread some Christmas cheer? Gavin & Stacey star Mathew Horne reprises his role as Nan's grandson, Jamie.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.15** Ingenious. **10.15** Christmas Day Eucharist. **11.15** CBBC: The Sarah Jane Adventures. **12.10** BBC News; Weather. **12.25** Film: The Santa Clause. (1994) **2.00** Top of the Pops Christmas 2009. **3.00** The Queen. **3.10** Film: The Incredibles. (2004) Premiere. Pixar's animated adventure, with the voice of Craig T Nelson. **4.55** Shrek the Halls. (R) **5.20** BBC News. **5.30** The Gruffalo.

6.00 Doctor Who. David Tennant takes his final trip in the Tardis in the first of a two-part special, which sees the return of the Master.
7.00 Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special. Six celebrities compete in an end-of-year extravaganza.
8.00 EastEnders. Hour-long edition. Archie meets a grisly end.
9.00 The Royle Family. Jim and Barbara argue over what to do with a cash windfall.
10.00 Gavin & Stacey. The gang descends on the beach.
10.30 Catherine Tate: Nan's Christmas Carol. The foul-mouthed OAP stars in her own festive special.
11.20 BBC News; Weather.
11.30 On Christmas Night. Actress Julie Fernandez reads the story of the Nativity.
11.35 The National Lottery EuroMillions Draw. Coverage of the draw.
11.45 FILM: Speed. (1994) Action thriller, starring Keanu Reeves; Weatherview.

1.40 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies: Bob the Builder. **7.00** CBeebies Pantomime: Oh Yes It Is! (R) **7.30** CBBC: Inside Life. **8.00** Gimme a Break. (R) **8.30** Wainwright Walks. (R) **9.00** Great Railway Journeys. (R) **9.50** Film: Heidi. (2005) Premiere. Children's drama, starring Emma Bolger. **11.30** Star of Bethlehem. (R) **12.30** Film: Kiss Me Kate. (1953) Musical comedy, starring Howard Keel and Kathryn Grayson. **2.15** Film: White Christmas. (1954) Musical, starring Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye. **4.10** La Boheme.

6.00 The Private Life of a Christmas Masterpiece: The Mystic Nativity. The darker side of Botticelli's masterpiece.
6.50 The Queen. Her Majesty's annual address. (R)
7.00 James May's Toy Stories. The presenter bids to build the world's longest-ever model railway track. Last in the series.
8.00 Dad's Army. Mainwaring organises a Christmas treat. (R)
8.30 Blackadder the Third. The Prince Regent chooses a bride. (R)
9.00 Top Gear. The hosts bid to prove that cars can be art. (R)
10.00 Oz and Hugh Drink to Christmas. Oz Clarke and Hugh Dennis sample festive drinks. (R)
11.00 The Funny Side of Chat. The most entertaining moments in chat shows.

12.00 QI. (R) **12.30** Never Mind the Buzzcocks: Where Are They Now? **1.00** TOTP2 Xmas 2009. **2.30** Stella Street: The Movie. (R)

ITV1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** Christmas Cooks Challenge. **10.25** Creature Comforts. (R) **10.55** Film: Santa Claus: The Movie. (1985) Family fantasy adventure, starring Dudley Moore. **1.00** ITV News; Weather. **1.10** Film: The Polar Express. (2004) Animated adventure, with the voice of Tom Hanks. **3.00** The Queen. **3.10** You've Been Framed at Christmas! **3.40** Film: Happy Feet. (2006) Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voice of Elijah Wood. **5.40** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 Emmerdale. Hour-long edition. Charity and Cain agree to be civil for Debbie's sake, and reluctantly accept when she asks them to go to the Dingles' for Christmas dinner.
7.00 Coronation Street. Kevin and Molly agree to confess to their affair.
8.00 All Star Mr & Mrs Christmas Special. With Joan Collins, Emma Bunton and Andy Whyment.
9.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot. The dapper sleuth attends a North African archaeological dig and uncovers a wealth of suspects when an aristocrat's wife is stabbed to death. Detective drama, starring David Suchet.
11.00 ITV News; Weather.
11.15 FILM: Gladiator. (2000) Oscar-winning period epic, starring Russell Crowe; ITV News Headlines.

2.05 Film: One Million Years BC. (1966) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.25** CITV: Captain Mack. **5.35** Paz. **5.40** Captain Mack. **5.55** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.00 Yo Gabba Gabba. (R) **6.30** Little Wolf's Book of Badness. (R) **7.00** Wilde Stories. (R) **7.30** Olive the Other Reindeer. (R) **8.25** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **8.55** T4: Friends. (R) **9.30** T4: Friends. (R) **10.00** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **10.35** T4: Beyonce: I Am Yours — An Intimate Performance from Wynn, Las Vegas. **11.40** Film: Honey, I Blew Up the Kid. (1992) Disney comedy sequel, starring Rick Moranis. **1.25** Only When I Dance. **3.00** The Alternative Christmas Message. **3.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa. **4.15** Film: Annie. (1982) John Huston's musical, with Albert Finney and Carol Burnett.

6.35 The Secret Millionaire Changed My Life. Entrepreneur Gary Eastwood returns to Blackpool. (R)
7.40 Channel 4 News.
7.45 Katie: My Beautiful Face. The victim of an acid attack tells her story. (R)
8.50 The Alternative Christmas Message. The traditional counterpoint to the Queen's broadcast. (R)
9.00 FILM: Grey Gardens. (2009) Premiere. Fact-based drama about the eccentric and reclusive aunt and first cousin of Jackie Kennedy Onassis. With Drew Barrymore and Jessica Lange.
11.05 Lee Evans: Big — Live at the O2. The comedian performs at the London arena. (R)

12.10 David Blaine: Frozen in Time. (R) **1.10** A Bear's Chrimbo: Top 20. **3.00** Deadliest Catch. **3.45** The Hills. **4.35** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.25** One Tree Hill.

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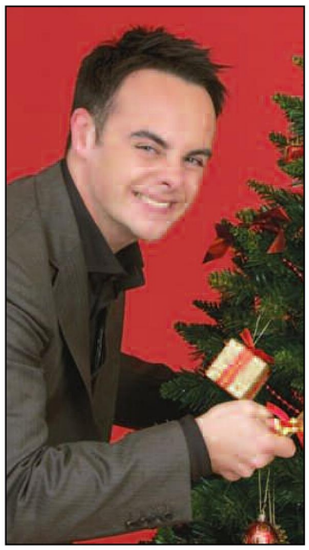
Christmas Television

Boxing Day
Saturday, December 26th 2009

Eastenders - 7pm BBC1

Choice



ANT & DEC'S CHRISTMAS SHOW
ITV1, 7.30pm

Put on your Christmas socks, crack open another selection box, and clear a space among the discarded wrapping paper on the sofa — because Ant & Dec are opening their doors and inviting you in for mulled wine and a big barrel of laughs. Set inside Santa's Cabin, complete with roaring fire, stockings and a talking moose head and filmed in front of a studio audience, the boys will welcome a whole host of showbiz friends to join in the celebrations. Donning their Christmas jumpers, Ant and Dec will be in full festive mood as they welcome special guests.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen. **11.40** Film: Herbie: Fully Loaded. (2005) Disney comedy sequel, starring Lindsay Lohan. **1.15** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **1.30** Film: Bridge to Terabithia. (2006) Premiere. Fantasy drama, starring Josh Hutcherson. **3.00** Film: Flushed Away. (2006) Premiere. Animated adventure, featuring the voice of Hugh Jackman. **4.20** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **4.40** Film: Wallace and Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit. (2005) Oscar-winning animated adventure, with the voice of Peter Sallis.

6.00 Total Wipeout Celebrity Special. Richard Hammond presents the first of two celebrity specials.
7.00 EastEnders. Ronnie becomes the prime suspect in Archie's murder.
7.30 FILM: Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End. (2007) Premiere. Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Johnny Depp and Geoffrey Rush.
10.05 The National Lottery Draws. With Carole Machin.
10.15 BBC News; Weather.
10.25 Match of the Day. Including highlights of Birmingham City v Chelsea; National Lottery Update.
11.50 The Football League Show. Including highlights of Queens Park Rangers v Bristol City; Weatherview.

1.10 Film: Bull Durham. (1988) Baseball comedy drama, starring Kevin Costner and Susan Sarandon. **2.55** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.50** Living Famously. (R) **11.50** BBC Proms 2009. **1.55** Film: An American in Paris. (1951) Gershwin romantic musical, starring Gene Kelly. **3.45** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em. (R) **4.30** Final Score. **5.05** Hamlet.

8.10 Victorian Farm Christmas. Ruth Goodman makes a Dickens-style Christmas pudding. Last in the series. (R)
9.10 The Morecambe and Wise Christmas Show. Festive fun with the ever-popular comedy duo and guests Vanessa Redgrave, Hannah Gordon, Rudolf Nureyev, Laurence Olivier and Andre Previn, all proving they are game for a laugh. (R)
10.15 The Story of Slapstick. The evolution of physical comedy, from silent films to surrealism, sketches and sitcoms, featuring the Chaplin classics, Monty Python and Bottom.
11.15 The Young Ones. Neil falls ill, and medical student Vyvyan demonstrates his unique bedside manner by suggesting a cure involving six-inch nails. (R)
11.45 Shooting Stars. Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer return with the anarchic quiz. (R)

12.15 Film: Carry On Follow That Camel. (1966) Comedy, with Jim Dale. **1.50** Film: Build My Gallows High. (1947) Film noir, starring Robert Mitchum. **3.20** Close.

ITV1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** Christmas Cooks Challenge. **10.25** All Star Mr & Mrs Christmas Special. (R) **11.25** I Dreamed a Dream: The Susan Boyle Story. (R) **12.25** News; Weather. **12.40** Film: Racing Stripes. (2004) **2.30** Goodnight Mister Tom. (R) **4.40** Film: March of the Penguins. (2005) Premiere. Oscar-winning documentary, narrated by Morgan Freeman.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.
6.30 Harry Hill's TV Burp Review of the Year. Memorable small-screen moments from 2009.
7.00 You've Been Framed at Christmas! Festive faux pas and seasonal slip-ups.
7.30 Ant & Dec's Christmas Show. The Geordie duo present this festive special, with Robbie Williams, Amanda Holden, Piers Morgan and the Saturdays dropping in for a mixture of songs, sketches and games.
8.45 All Star Family Fortunes Christmas Special. Teams from Coronation Street and Emmerdale compete.
9.30 The All Star Impressions Show. Celebrities impersonate familiar faces.
10.30 ITV News; Weather.
10.45 Above Suspicion. Detective drama, by Lynda La Plante.

12.40 Film: The Graduate. (1967) Comedy drama, with Dustin Hoffman; ITV News Headlines. **2.25** Six Degrees. (R) **3.10** ITV Nightscreen. **5.25** CITV: Captain Mack. **5.35** Paz. **5.40** Captain Mack. **5.55** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.10 Sali Mali. (R) **6.15** Planet Cook. (R) **6.35** Yo Gabba Gabba. (R) **7.00** Freesports on 4. (R) **8.00** The Morning Line. **8.55** T4: Friends. (R) **9.25** T4: Friends. (R) **9.55** T4: T4's Stars of 2009. (R) **11.55** T4: 90210. **12.50** T4: Scrubs. (R) **1.20** T4: Scrubs. (R) **1.50** Channel 4 Racing from Kempton Park, Wetherby and Wincanton. **4.05** Celebrity Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **4.35** Celebrity Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **5.05** Celebrity Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **5.35** Celebrity Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R)

6.05 Deal or No Deal. Game show, with Noel Edmonds.
7.05 Channel 4 News.
7.10 FILM: Crocodile Dundee. (1986) An Australian hunter with a larger-than-life reputation heads for the urban jungle of Manhattan. Comedy, starring Paul Hogan and Linda Kozlowski.
9.00 Decoded: Dan Brown's Lost Symbol. Tony Robinson searches for the truth behind Dan Brown's latest blockbuster.
10.00 The Real Da Vinci Code. Tony Robinson searches for the Holy Grail. (R)
11.05 The Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2005. Celebrity game show, hosted by Jimmy Carr. (R)

1.05 Film: Aeon Flux. (2005) Premiere. Sci-fi adventure, with Charlize Theron. **2.40** The Truth About Street Weapons. (R) **2.50** The Dead Zone. (R) **3.35** The Hills. **4.50** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.40** One Tree Hill.

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Christmas Television

Sunday
December 27th 2009

Outnumbered Christmas Special - 10.30pm BBC1

Choice

CRANFORD
BBC1, 9pm

The opening edition of this two-part special reintroduced viewers to Miss Matty Jenkyns, one of Judi Dench's most adorable small screen characters. In the concluding episode, she's in the thick of things once again when she and her friends are horrified after being told they are not aristocratic enough to rub shoulders with Lady Glenmire, a newcomer in their midst. Miss Matty is also concerned about Peggy, who looks set to make a personal sacrifice for the sake of her family — something her elderly friend can deeply sympathise with. Celia Imrie, Barbara Flynn, Jodie Whittaker and Imelda Staunton co-star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.50** Match of the Day. (R) **9.15** Film: Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron. (2002) Animated adventure, with the voice of Matt Damon. **10.30** Film: Paulie. (1998) Family adventure, starring Gena Rowlands. **11.55** BBC News; Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.05** EastEnders. **3.05** Film: Chicken Run. (2000) Animated comedy, with the voice of Mel Gibson. **4.25** Songs of Praise. **5.00** Weakest Link.

6.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
6.30 Comic Relief: The Net Result. Celebrities help to distribute mosquito nets in Uganda.
7.30 Celebrity Mastermind. New series. Goldie, Paul O'Grady, Gail Emms and Loyd Grossman take part.
8.00 Casualty. The trainees are hailed as heroes after saving victims of a car accident.
9.00 Cranford. Conclusion of the two-part special. The women are put out when Mrs Jamieson suggests none of them is of high enough social standing to meet new arrival Lady Glenmire.
10.30 Outnumbered Christmas Special. The family's Christmas is marred by burglars — and a missing hamster.
11.10 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
11.30 FILM: American Flyers. (1985) Drama, starring Kevin Costner and David Grant; Weatherview.

1.25 Sign Zone: Holby City. (R) **2.25** Film: Bridge to Terabithia. (2006) Fantasy drama, with Josh Hutcherson. **3.55** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.00** Animal Park. (R) **10.30** The Pixar Story. **11.55** Film: Gigi. (1958) Oscar-winning romantic musical, starring Leslie Caron. **1.45** Campion. (R) **3.35** Coast. (R) **4.35** Film: The Heroes of Telemark. (1965) World War Two thriller, starring Kirk Douglas.

6.45 James May's Toy Stories. The presenter bids to build the world's longest-ever model railway track. Last in the series. (R)
7.45 Top Gear Bolivia Special. Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May drive 4x4s from the rainforest of the Amazon basin on a road trip to Chile, and tackle one of the world's most dangerous roads.
9.00 Steve Coogan: The Inside Story. Tribute to the comedian who brought the world Alan Partridge, Paul and Pauline Calf, and Tony Ferrino. Contributors include Vic and Bob, Rob Brydon, Victoria Wood and Julia Davis.
10.00 Knowing Me, Knowing Yule — With Alan Partridge. Christmas special of the spoof chat show from 1995. (R)
10.45 Match of the Day 2. Including Arsenal v Aston Villa.
11.35 I'm Alan Partridge. Alan tries to save his career. (R)

12.05 I'm Alan Partridge. (R) **12.35** QI. (R) **1.05** Defying Gravity. (R) **1.45** Film: Farewell My Lovely. (1944) **3.20** BBC News. **3.55** Close.

ITV1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** The Planet's Funniest Animals. **9.55** Coronation Street. **12.10** Film: Home Alone 4. (2002) **1.50** News; Weather. **1.59** Regional Programme. **2.00** Ant & Dec's Christmas Show. (R) **3.15** Film: The Scorpion King. (2002) **5.00** Regional Programmes. **5.15** ITV News; Weather. **5.30** Harry Hill's TV Burp Review of the Year. (R)

6.00 Dancing on Ice: The Story of Bolero with Torvill and Dean. Documentary originally shown to mark the 25th anniversary of the ice dancing performance that won Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean gold at the Winter Olympics in Sarajevo. (R)
7.00 Midsomer Murders. A fatal explosion at a haulage yard proves a difficult case for Barnaby, whose suspects include several Territorial Army soldiers, a ruthless businessman and a grieving mother. (R)
9.00 FILM: The Holiday. (2006) Premiere. Two single women living on opposite sides of the Atlantic swap houses for Christmas. Romantic comedy, starring Cameron Diaz.
11.35 ITV News; Weather.
11.50 FILM: Mermaids. (1990) Romantic comedy, starring Cher and Winona Ryder.

1.40 Premiership Rugby Union; ITV News Headlines. **2.35** Traffic. (R) **4.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.25** CITV: Captain Mack. **5.35** Paz. **5.40** Captain Mack. **5.55** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.25 The Treacle People. (R) **6.35** Yo Gabba Gabba. (R) **7.00** Ocean Race. (R) **7.55** The Great Swim Series. (R) **8.55** T4: Friends. (R) **9.25** T4: Friends. (R) **9.55** T4: Chipmunk: T4 Special. **10.30** T4: Hollyoaks. **1.30** T4: 90210. **2.35** T4: Friends. (R) **3.10** T4: 4Music Favourites: Black Eyed Peas. (R) **3.45** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **4.20** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **4.50** Film: Crocodile Dundee II. (1988) Comedy adventure sequel, starring Paul Hogan.

6.50 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Tsunami: Where Was God? Former Dominican Friar Mark Dowd travels to Thailand, India and Indonesia to discover how survivors of the 2004 tsunami have reconciled the disaster with their religious beliefs. (R)
9.00 The Greatest TV Shows of the Noughties. Examining the results of a poll to find the 20 most popular TV programmes of the past decade from among Doctor Who, The Wire, Planet Earth, The Apprentice, Big Brother and Friends.
10.35 The Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2006. Jimmy Carr is joined by Jonathan Ross, David Walliams, Russell Brand, Rob Brydon, Noel Fielding and Cat Deeley to take a tongue-in-cheek look at the events of 2006. (R)

12.40 Hits and Headlines: Christmas Number Ones 95-08. **2.35** Deadliest Catch. **3.25** The Truth About Street Weapons. (R) **3.35** The Hills. **5.10** One Tree Hill. **5.55** Sali Mali. (R)

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Christmas Television

Bank Holiday
Monday, December 28th 2009

The Day of the Triffids - 9pm BBC1

Choice

THE DAY OF THE TRIFFIDS
BBC1, 9pm

In the not-too-distant future, humanity's search for a renewable energy source has led to the discovery of triffids, a crop that can be grown for fuel. When spectators gather all over the world for a much-anticipated solar storm, billions of unsuspecting people are left blinded and those fortunate enough to have their sight can do little but watch as society begins to collapse into chaos. Meanwhile, the same event appears to have bestowed the plants with a life of their own — along with a taste for human flesh. The conclusion can be seen tomorrow at 9pm. Apocalyptic drama, starring Dougray Scott.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** CBBC: Bear Behaving Badly. **9.20** Dani's House. (R) **9.50** Shaun the Sheep. (R) **10.00** Film: Eight Below. (2006) **11.50** Keeping Up Appearances. (R) **12.50** BBC News; Weather. **1.00** Regional News; Weather. **1.05** Film: The Princess Diaries. (2001) Comedy, with Anne Hathaway. **2.55** Film: 101 Dalmatians. (1996) Disney comedy adventure remake, with Glenn Close. **4.30** Final Score. **5.30** Weakest Link. (R)

6.20 BBC News; Weather.
6.50 Regional Programmes.
7.00 Wallace & Gromit: A Matter of Loaf and Death. Wallace opens his own bakery. (R)
7.30 Big Top. Plonky comes down with a mysterious virus.
8.00 EastEnders. The police begin asking questions around the Square.
8.30 Celebrity Mastermind. With Darren Bennett, Stuart Maconie, Linda Papadopoulos and Andrew Lancel.
9.00 The Day of the Triffids. Two-part apocalyptic drama. The discovery of a renewable energy source in the form of plants called triffids has devastating consequences for the human race.
10.30 BBC News.
10.45 Regional News; Weather.
10.50 Match of the Day. Including action from Chelsea v Fulham.

12.00 The Football League Show; Weatherview. **1.20** Sign Zone: James May's Toy Stories. (R) **2.20** Victorian Farm Christmas. (R) **3.20** Defying Gravity. (R) **4.50** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies: Me Too! **6.20** Big Cook Little Cook. (R) **6.40** Brum. (R) **6.55** Pingu. (R) **7.00** CBBC: Watch My Chops. **7.15** Watch My Chops. (R) **7.30** Inside Life. (R) **8.00** Gimme a Break. (R) **8.30** Wainwright Walks. (R) **9.00** Great Railway Journeys. (R) **9.50** Animal Park. (R) **10.50** Who Do You Think You Are? (R) **11.50** Coast. (R) **12.50** Racing from Chepstow. **3.05** Film: Rio Lobo. (1970) Howard Hawks' Western, with John Wayne and Jorge Rivero. **5.00** Flog It! (R) **5.30** Escape to the Country. (R)

6.15 FILM: Just Like Heaven. (2005) A doctor dies in a car crash but her spirit is reluctant to leave the world behind. Romantic drama, starring Reese Witherspoon and Mark Ruffalo.
7.45 Top Gear Bolivia Special. The team uses second-hand 4x4s to negotiate the Amazon basin and reach Chile. (R)
9.00 Not Again: Not the Nine O'Clock News Story. The inside story of the anarchic comedy sketch show.
10.30 Not the Nine O'Clock News. Sketch show. (R)
10.55 Dara O Briain Live from the Theatre Royal. The finale of the comedian's 2006 tour of the UK and Ireland. (R)
11.55 The Funny Side of Chat. The most entertaining moments in chat shows. (R)

12.55 Defying Gravity. (R) **1.40** Film: Dead Reckoning. (1947) Murder mystery, starring Humphrey Bogart. **3.15** BBC News. **4.50** Close.

ITV1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **10.25** All Star Family Fortunes Christmas Special. (R) **11.10** Stars on the Street. (R) **12.10** ITV News; Weather. **12.30** Regional Programme. **12.35** Film: Carry On Cleo. (1964) British comedy, with Sid James. **2.15** Agatha Christie's Poirot. (R) **4.20** Film: Pride and Prejudice. (2005) Period drama, with Keira Knightley.

6.30 Regional Programmes.
6.45 ITV News; Weather.
7.00 Emmerdale. Cain and Charity announce their engagement.
7.30 Coronation Street. Kevin is shocked at how close he came to ending his marriage.
8.00 Countrywise. Paul Heiney visits the Lake District. (R)
8.30 Coronation Street. Kevin unburdens himself to Bill.
9.00 An Englishman in New York. John Hurt reprises his role as Quentin Crisp in this sequel to 1975 drama The Naked Civil Servant.
10.30 ITV News; Weather.
10.45 The Royal Shakespeare Company: The South Bank Show. Behind the scenes of the RSC's production of The Grain Storm. Last-ever edition.
11.45 FILM: The Pianist. (2002) Oscar-winning wartime drama, starring Adrien Brody.

2.20 Six Degrees; (R) ITV News Headlines. **3.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **4.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.25** CITV: Captain Mack. **5.35** Paz. **5.40** Captain Mack. **5.55** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.00 Planet Cook. (R) **6.20** Yo Gabba Gabba. (R) **6.45** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.10** Frasier. (R) **7.35** Will & Grace. (R) **8.00** According to Jim. **8.25** T4: Friends. (R) **8.55** T4: Friends. (R) **9.25** T4: Friends. (R) **9.55** T4: 90210. **10.55** T4: 4Music Favourites: Robbie Williams. (R) **12.00** T4: 4Music Favourites: Shakira. **12.25** Film: Anna and the King. (1999) Period drama, with Jodie Foster. **3.05** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **3.40** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **4.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa. **4.55** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **5.30** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R)

6.00 The Simpsons. (R)
6.30 Hollyoaks.
7.00 Channel 4 News.
7.10 Britain's Worst Weather. The devastation caused by flooding. (R)
8.00 Man on Earth. Societies that have flourished as a result of climate change. Last in the series.
9.00 The Greatest Songs of the Noughties. Revisiting music trends of the past 10 years, including a countdown of the 20 songs considered the best of the decade by the public in a nationwide poll.
10.30 The Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2007. Hosted by Jimmy Carr, with Jonathan Ross and Russell Brand. (R)

12.40 Live from Abbey Road: Tribute to the Beatles. **1.35** The Secrets of the Austrian Cellar. (R) **2.30** Deadliest Catch. **3.20** The Hills. **4.25** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.10** One Tree Hill. **5.55** Yo Gabba Gabba. (R)

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Christmas Television

Tuesday
December 29th 2009

Holby City - 8pm BBC1

Choice

ALAN CARR: CHATTY MAN NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL

Channel 4, 10.20pm

To see in the New Year, outgoing Doctor Who actor David Tennant, former Doctor's assistant and comedian Catherine Tate and Big Brother host Davina McCall join Carr for a drink and chat, along with reunited 80s popstars Spandau Ballet performing their hit Gold. Strange as it is to see the Northern funnyman presenting without fellow Sunday Night Project presenter Justin Lee Collins. Carr believes interviews don't have to delve into every gruesome detail of a celeb's life to be entertaining.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.40** Match of the Day. (R) **8.50** CBBC: Bear Behaving Badly. **9.10** Dani's House. (R) **9.40** Shaun the Sheep. (R) **9.50** Film: The Jungle Book 2. (2003) Animated adventure sequel, with the voice of Haley Joel Osment. **10.55** Film: Return to Never Land. (2002) Disney animated sequel to Peter Pan, with the voice of Harriet Owen. **12.00** 'Allo 'Allo! (R) **12.50** BBC News; Weather. **1.00** Regional News; Weather. **1.05** Film: Honey, I Shrunk the Kids. (1989) Disney comedy, starring Rick Moranis. **2.35** Film: 102 Dalmatians. (2000) Family adventure sequel, starring Glenn Close. **4.10** Film: Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit. (1993) Comedy sequel, starring Whoopi Goldberg. **5.55** Wallace & Gromit: A Grand Day Out. (R)

6.20 BBC News; Weather.
6.50 Regional Programmes.
7.00 Celebrity Mastermind.
7.30 EastEnders.
8.00 Holby City. News comes through that Faye has been charged with Archie's murder.
9.00 The Day of the Triffids. Conclusion. A visitor from London causes problems.
10.30 BBC News.
10.45 Regional News; Weather.
10.50 Sting's Winter Songbook.
11.50 FILM: The Big Easy. (1987) Romantic crime thriller, starring Dennis Quaid and Ellen Barkin; Weatherview.

1.35 Sign Zone: Oz and Hugh Drink to Christmas. (R) **2.35** The Private Life of a Christmas Masterpiece: The Mystic Nativity. (R) **3.25** Antiques Roadshow. (R) **4.25** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies: Me Too! **6.20** Big Cook Little Cook. (R) **6.40** Brum. (R) **6.55** Pingu. (R) **7.00** CBBC: Mona the Vampire. **7.15** Arthur. (R) **7.30** Inside Life. (R) **8.00** Gimme a Break. (R) **8.30** Wainwright Walks. (R) **9.00** Great Railway Journeys. (R) **9.55** Animal Park. (R) **10.40** Who Do You Think You Are? (R) **11.40** Victorian Farm. (R) **12.40** Coast. (R) **1.40** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.25** Flog It! (R) **3.10** Ready Steady Cook. (R) **3.55** Campion. (R) **5.45** Escape to the Country. (R)

6.30 FILM: Miss Potter. (2006) Biographical period drama, starring Renee Zellweger and Ewan McGregor.
8.00 This Is Your Life: June Whitfield OBE. A tribute to the comedy actress. (R)
8.30 Christmas Terry and June. The duo land the role of pantomime cow. (R)
9.00 The Many Faces of June Whitfield. The comedy actress tells the story of her career, focusing on her early days in the West End, her ill-fated Broadway debut and her TV and radio performances.
10.00 Absolutely Fabulous. Patsy and Edina visit New York. (R)
10.55 QI XL. With David Tennant, Bill Bailey and Lee Mack.
11.40 I'm Alan Partridge. Alan insults Norfolk's farmers. (R)

12.10 Steve Coogan: The Inside Story. (R) **1.10** Film: The Big Combo. (1955) Gangster thriller, starring Cornel Wilde. **2.35** BBC News. **4.25** Close.

ITV1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **9.55** Film: Murder, She Wrote: The Celtic Riddle. (2003) Mystery, starring Angela Lansbury. **11.35** Martin Clunes: A Man and His Dogs. (R) **12.35** ITV News; Weather. **12.45** Regional Programme. **12.50** Film: Death on the Nile. (1978) Mystery, with Peter Ustinov. **3.30** Midsomer Murders. (R) **5.30** The Colour of Money.

6.30 Regional Programmes.
6.45 ITV News; Weather.
7.00 Emmerdale. Katie tries to find out why Maisie disappeared the previous night, but her conversation with Ryan is interrupted by Natasha, who insists the couple join her for a drink.
7.30 Grimefighters. Specialist clean-up teams.
8.00 Funniest Ever You've Been Framed! Featuring beautiful babies, dotty dogs and holiday hiccups. (R)
9.00 The Bill. Conclusion. After another night on the streets, Mickey learns a second down-and-out has been murdered. Ralph Ineson guest stars.
10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather.
10.30 Regional Programme.
10.35 FILM: Die Another Day. (2002) James Bond spy adventure, starring Pierce Brosnan.

1.00 Premiership Rugby Union; (R) ITV News Headlines. **2.00** Six Degrees. (R) **2.45** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **3.40** ITV Nightscreen. **5.25** CITV: Captain Mack. **5.35** Paz. **5.40** Captain Mack. **5.55** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.25 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **6.45** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.10** Frasier. (R) **7.35** Will & Grace. (R) **8.00** Will & Grace. (R) **8.30** According to Jim. **9.00** T4: Friends. (R) **9.35** T4: Friends. (R) **10.05** T4: 90210. **11.05** T4: Lily Allen Special: Under the Skin. (R) **12.05** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) **1.10** Film: Dreamer: Inspired by a True Story. (2005) Premiere. Family drama, starring Kurt Russell. **3.05** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **3.40** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **4.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa. **4.55** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **5.30** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R)

6.00 The Simpsons. Marge writes a novel. (R)
6.30 Hollyoaks. Darren betrays Hannah when her condition takes a turn for the worse.
7.00 Channel 4 News.
7.30 Jamie at Home. The chef serves up winter salad dishes. (R)
8.00 River Cottage Heroes. Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall holds a celebratory dinner. (R)
9.00 Gordon Ramsay's F Word. Two international restaurants compete in the final heat.
10.20 Alan Carr: Chatty Man New Year's Special. With David Tennant, Catherine Tate and Davina McCall.
11.30 King of the Hill.

12.00 King of the Hill. **12.30** Film: And When Did You Last See Your Father? (2007) **2.10** The Truth About Street Weapons. (R) **2.20** Deadliest Catch. **3.10** The Hills. **4.20** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.05** One Tree Hill. **5.55** The Treacle People. (R)

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Christmas Television

Wednesday
December 30th 2009

Three Men Go to Ireland - 9pm BBC2

Choice

THE TURN OF THE SCREW
BBC1, 9pm

Henry James's classic novella has been adapted for the small screen. Michelle Dockery heads the cast as Ann, a governess who takes charge of two orphans living in the country house of their emotionally distant uncle. At first, she bonds with the children and their loyal housekeeper; their lives seem idyllic. But then Ann begins seeing two mysterious figures on the estate, which may or may not be the ghosts of two former servants who died in myserious circumstances — and whose presence has a disturbing effect on the young and impressionable governess. Sue Johnston and Corin Redgrave also star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** CBBC: Bear Behaving Badly. **9.20** Dani's House. (R) **9.50** Shaun the Sheep. (R) **10.00** Film: Piglet's Big Movie. (2003) Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voice of John Fiedler. **11.10** Film: The Tigger Movie. (2000) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Jim Cummings. **12.20** Film: Homeward Bound II: Lost in San Francisco. (1996) Animal adventure sequel, with the voice of Michael J Fox. **1.45** BBC News; Weather. **1.55** Regional News; Weather. **2.00** Film: The Shaggy Dog. (2006) Comedy remake, with Tim Allen. **3.35** Film: Mary Poppins. (1964) Disney musical fantasy, with Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke. **5.50** Wallace & Gromit: A Close Shave. (R)

6.20 BBC News; Weather.
6.50 Regional Programmes.
7.00 Big Top.
7.30 Celebrity Mastermind. With Joe Pasquale, Roger Black, Tony Audenshaw and Diane Louise Jordan.
8.00 Waterloo Road. The day of the talent contest arrives.
9.00 The Turn of the Screw. Chilling period drama, with Michelle Dockery and Sue Johnston.
10.30 BBC News.
10.45 Regional News; Weather.
10.50 The National Lottery Draws.
11.00 Victoria Wood: What Larks!
11.45 Film 2009 with Jonathan Ross; National Lottery Update.

12.15 Film: The Gingerbread Man. (1998) Legal thriller, with Kenneth Branagh; Weatherview. **2.10** Sign Zone: Cranford. (R) **3.40** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies: Me Too! **6.20** Big Cook Little Cook. (R) **6.40** Brum. (R) **6.55** Pingu. (R) **7.00** CBBC: Arthur. **7.15** Arthur. (R) **7.30** Inside Life. **8.00** Gimme a Break. (R) **8.30** Wainwright Walks. (R) **9.00** Great Railway Journeys. (R) **9.50** Animal Park. **10.35** Who Do You Think You Are? (R) **11.35** Victorian Farm. (R) **12.35** Coast. (R) **1.35** Campion. (R) **3.25** Ready Steady Cook. (R) **4.10** Are You Being Served? (R) **4.45** Flog It! (R) **5.30** A Child's Christmases in Wales. (R)

6.30 Springwatch Christmas Special 2009. The Springwatch and Autumnwatch team presents highlights from the 2009 series.
8.00 James May's Toy Stories. James embarks on a project to build a full-size house from Lego, enlisting hundreds of people to help the construction using more than three million toy bricks. (R)
9.00 Three Men Go to Ireland. Part one of two. Dara O Briain, Griff Rhys Jones and Rory McGrath sail from Dublin to Limerick.
10.00 2009 Unwrapped with Miranda Hart. The comedienne hosts a satirical look at 2009.
11.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks: Where Are They Now? Highlights from the latest series. (R)
11.30 I'm Alan Partridge. Alan seeks excitement. (R)

12.00 Grumpy Old New Year. (R) **12.55** Film: On Dangerous Ground. (1951) Thriller, starring Robert Ryan. **2.15** BBC News. **3.40** Close.

ITV1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **10.25** Film: Murder, She Wrote: The Last Free Man. (2001) Detective drama, starring Angela Lansbury. **12.05** Martin Clunes: A Man and His Dogs. (R) **1.05** ITV News; Weather. **1.25** Regional Programme. **1.30** Film: The Mirror Crack'd. (1980) Agatha Christie mystery, starring Angela Lansbury. **3.30** Lewis. (R) **5.30** All the Queen's Horses with Alan Titchmarsh. (R)

6.30 Regional Programmes.
6.45 ITV News; Weather.
7.00 Grimefighters. Specialist clean-up teams.
7.30 Emmerdale. Mark has a near-miss when Natasha pays Faye a visit.
8.00 Countrywise. One-hour special in which Paul Heiney journeys through Yorkshire and Lancashire, looking at whether an age-old rivalry still exists between the two neighbouring regions.
9.00 Piers Morgan's Review of the Year. The presenter and journalist looks back at the events and news that dominated 2009, with contributions by guests including Louis Walsh, Alastair Campbell and Amanda Holden.
10.30 ITV News; Weather.
11.05 Regional Programme.
11.10 FILM: End of Days. (1999) Supernatural adventure, with Arnold Schwarzenegger.

1.15 Six Degrees; (R) ITV News Headlines. **2.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **3.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.05 Yo Gabba Gabba. (R) **6.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **6.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.20** Frasier. (R) **7.45** Will & Grace. (R) **8.10** According to Jim. **8.40** T4: Friends. (R) **9.15** T4: Friends. (R) **9.45** T4: 90210. **10.35** T4: JLS Love Jacko: Top 10. (R) **11.35** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **12.05** Film: Battle of the Bulge. (1965) World War Two drama, starring Robert Shaw. **3.05** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **3.40** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **4.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa. **4.55** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **5.30** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R)

6.00 The Simpsons. Milhouse and his mother leave Springfield. (R)
6.30 Hollyoaks. Lydia begins to grow suspicious of Zoe.
7.00 Channel 4 News.
7.30 My Father the Mercenary. The story of a soldier of fortune. Part of the First Cut strand. (R)
8.00 The Turin Shroud: The New Evidence. Recent research casting fresh light on the shroud's origins.
9.00 Tsunami: Caught on Camera. The story of the 2004 Boxing Day tragedy.
10.35 Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2008. Hosted by Jimmy Carr, with James Corden, Claudia Winkleman and Davina McCall. (R)

12.45 Grey Gardens. **2.25** Strange Little Girls. (R) **2.40** 4Music: This Week's 4Music Top 20. **4.25** The Hills. **4.50** St Elsewhere. **5.45** Planet Cook. (R)

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Christmas Television

New Year's Eve

Thursday, December 31st 2009

Choice

JOOLS' ANNUAL HOOTENANNY 2009

BBC2, 11pm

There's only one place to be on New Year's Eve and that's in front of the box watching Jools and his various musical guests as they say hello to 2010 in style. Why bother spending vast amounts of cash seeing the New Year in with drunken revellers in your local boozer, when you can relax in the company of Jools and friends and listen to some decent music? As always, the new decade will be brought in by the pipes and drums of the 1st Battalion of The Scots Guards. Featuring performances by Tom Jones, Boy George, Dizzee Rascal, Roger Daltrey and Lily Allen.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** CBBC: Bear Behaving Badly. **9.25** Dani's House. (R) **9.55** Film: The Magic Roundabout. (2005) Animated adventure, with the voice of Ian McKellen. **11.15** Film: Flubber. (1997) Children's comedy remake, starring Robin Williams. **12.40** Film: The Ant Bully. (2006) Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voice of Julia Roberts. **2.00** BBC News; Weather. **2.10** Regional News; Weather. **2.15** Film: The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement. (2004) Family comedy sequel, starring Anne Hathaway. **4.00** Film: Madagascar. (2005) Animated adventure, with the voice of Ben Stiller. **5.20** Wallace & Gromit: The Wrong Trousers. (R) **5.50** BBC News; Weather.

6.20 Regional Programmes.
6.30 Top of the Pops New Year's Eve 2009. Featuring Robbie Williams, Alexandra Burke and Muse.
7.30 EastEnders. Syed fails to obtain Qadim's blessing.
8.00 FILM: Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest. (2006) Captain Jack Sparrow battles to save his soul from the legendary Davy Jones. Swashbuckling adventure sequel, starring Johnny Depp.
10.20 BBC News; Weather.
10.40 The Graham Norton New Year's Eve Show. With Sarah Jessica Parker, Dominic West and Joan Rivers. Last in the series.
11.45 New Year Live 2009.

12.15 Film: Bandits. (2001) Comedy crime adventure, starring Bruce Willis; Skiing Weatherview. **2.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies: Me Too! **6.20** Big Cook Little Cook. (R) **6.40** Brum. (R) **6.55** Pingu. (R) **7.00** CBBC: The Tale of Jack Frost. **7.30** Inside Life. (R) **8.00** Gimme a Break. (R) **8.30** Wainwright Walks. (R) **9.00** Great Railway Journeys. (R) **9.50** Animal Park. (R) **10.35** Who Do You Think You Are? (R) **11.35** Victorian Farm. (R) **12.35** Coast. (R) **1.35** Diagnosis Murder. (R) **2.20** Flog It! (R) **3.05** Ready Steady Cook. **3.50** Campion. (R) **5.40** Escape to the Country.

6.25 Are You Being Served? The staff members compete to play Father Christmas. (R)
6.55 FILM: Easy Virtue. (2008) Premiere. An Englishman in the 1920s marries a brash American woman, to the horror of his family. Romantic comedy, with Jessica Biel.
8.25 dinnerladies. The crew prepares for the millennium dinner, but Tony makes a discovery on the fire escape which puts a damper on the festivities. (R)
9.00 FILM: The Painted Veil. (2006) Premiere. An English doctor in Twenties China takes his unfaithful wife on a dangerous journey. Revenge drama, starring Edward Norton and Naomi Watts.
11.00 Jools' Annual Hootenanny 2009. With Tom Jones, Boy George, Dizzee Rascal, Roger Daltrey and Lily Allen.

1.20 Glastonbury 2009. (R) **3.25** Film: They Live By Night. (1948) Crime drama, starring Farley Granger. **4.55** Close.

ITV1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **10.25** Film: Murder, She Wrote: A Story to Die For. (2000) Mystery, starring Angela Lansbury. **12.05** Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Christmas Special. (R) **1.05** ITV News; Weather. **1.25** Regional Programme. **1.30** Film: Murder on the Orient Express. (1974) Agatha Christie mystery, starring Albert Finney. **3.55** Film: Superman. (1978) Comic-strip adventure, starring Christopher Reeve.

6.30 Regional Programmes.
6.45 ITV News; Weather.
7.00 Emmerdale. Ryan fails to persuade Katie to go to Sheffield with him.
7.30 River Monsters. Reports of attacks by sharks in fresh water. Last in the series. (R)
8.00 Emmerdale. Maisie makes suggestive comments to Ryan in front of Katie.
8.30 Coronation Street. Molly tries to lure Kevin away from Sally.
9.00 Sleep with Me. A couple are lured into a mysterious woman's seductive and menacing game. Feature-length erotic thriller, starring Adrian Lester and Jodhi May.
10.35 Ad of the Decade. Countdown of the 20 greatest TV commercials of the past 10 years. (R)
11.35 ITV News: Countdown to 2010.

12.05 Film: Midnight Run. (1988) Comedy thriller, starring Robert De Niro; ITV News Headlines. **2.25** Six Degrees. (R) **3.10** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.05 Yo Gabba Gabba. (R) **6.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **6.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.20** Frasier. (R) **7.40** Will & Grace. (R) **8.05** According to Jim. **8.30** T4: Friends. (R) **8.55** T4: Friends. (R) **9.30** T4: Friends. (R) **10.00** T4: 90210. **10.55** T4: The World's Greatest Pop Star: Beyonce. (R) **12.00** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) **1.05** Film: Romancing the Stone. (1984) Comedy adventure, starring Michael Douglas. **3.05** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **3.40** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **4.10** Deal or No Deal. **4.55** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **5.30** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R)

6.00 The Simpsons. Guest starring Simon Cowell. (R)
6.30 Hollyoaks. Lydia and Zoe engage in a vicious battle of wills.
7.00 Channel 4 News.
7.30 The Greatest Songs of the Noughties. The best music of the past 10 years. (R)
9.00 Your Top 20 Celebrity Big Brother Moments. Memorable highlights from the celebrity version of the reality show.
10.00 The Greatest TV Shows of the Noughties. Small-screen viewing habits over the past 10 years. (R)
11.45 Alan Carr: Chatty Man New Year's Special. (R)

12.45 Hits and Headlines: Christmas Number Ones 95-08. (R) **2.40** One Minute Past Midnight. (R) **2.50** Film: South of St Louis. (1948) Western, starring Joel McCrea. **4.20** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.05** Age of Love. (R) **5.50** The Treacle People. (R)

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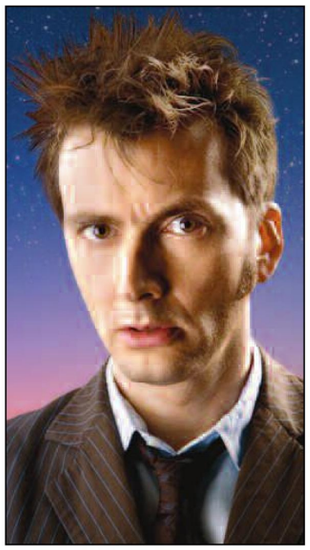
Christmas Television

New Year's Day
Friday, January 1st 2010

Gavin & Stacey - 9pm BBC1

Choice



DOCTOR WHO
BBC1, 6.40pm

Well, it's here at last — the last-ever episode of David Tennant's Tardis tenure. It's also, of course, the final script written by Russell T Davies. As anybody who tuned into Christmas Day's episode will already know, the Master is back — and he's even more bonkers than ever before. An ancient trap is also closing around the Earth. Only the Doctor knows how to stop it, and he has help from an unlikely companion — Donna's granddad Wilf. We already know the episode isn't going to end well for the gallivanting Gallifreyan, so get those hankies ready. Bernard Cribbins, John Simm, Timothy Dalton and Catherine Tate also star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** CBBC: Bear Behaving Badly. **9.20** What's New Scooby-Doo? (R) **9.45** Film: The Sword in the Stone. (1963) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Ricky Sorenson. **11.05** Film: Muppet Treasure Island. (1996) Musical puppet comedy, with Tim Curry. **12.35** The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message. **12.40** BBC News; Weather. **12.50** Regional News; Weather. **12.55** Doctor Who. (R) **1.55** Film: Shark Tale. (2004) Animated adventure, with the voice of Will Smith. **3.15** Film: Superman Returns. (2006) Comic-book adventure, starring Brandon Routh. **5.40** BBC News; Weather.

6.00 Regional Programmes.
6.10 EastEnders.
6.40 Doctor Who. David Tennant's final appearance as the Doctor.
7.55 EastEnders. Syed confesses the truth to Zainab.
8.30 Celebrity Mastermind. With Ed Byrne, John Bishop, Anneka Rice and Tristan Gemmill.
9.00 Gavin & Stacey. Nessa and Dave's wedding day arrives. Last in the series.
9.30 QI. With Graham Norton, David Mitchell, Dara O Briain and Alan Davies.
10.00 Live at the Apollo.
10.30 BBC News; Weather.
10.45 The National Lottery EuroMillions Draw.
10.55 FILM: Sweet Home Alabama. (2002) Romantic comedy, starring Reese Witherspoon and Josh Lucas; Weatherview.

12.40 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies: Me Too! **6.20** Big Cook Little Cook. (R) **6.40** Brum. (R) **6.55** Pingu. (R) **7.00** CBBC: Arthur. **7.25** Inside Life. (R) **7.55** Gimme a Break. (R) **8.25** Wainwright Walks. (R) **8.55** Great Railway Journeys. (R) **9.45** Animal Park. (R) **10.15** Who Do You Think You Are? (R) **11.15** New Year's Day Concert. **12.40** Film: Big Jake. (1971) Western, starring John Wayne. **2.25** Film: The Guns of Navarone. (1961) World War Two adventure, starring Gregory Peck. **4.55** The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message. (R) **5.00** Funny Women: Mollie Sugden. (R) **5.30** Funny Turns: John Inman. (R)

6.00 Are You Being Served? Festive edition of the Seventies comedy. (R)
6.30 The Story of Are You Being Served? Examining the appeal of the TV sitcom.
7.30 Are You Being Served? Colourised pilot episode of the vintage comedy. (R)
8.00 Three Men Go to Ireland. Part two of two. The companions head toward Limerick.
9.00 FILM: The Good Shepherd. (2006) Premiere. A CIA worker faces a terrible choice between national security and the safety of his family. Spy drama, with Matt Damon and Robert De Niro.
11.40 I'm Alan Partridge. Alan meets his biggest fan. (R)

12.10 I'm Alan Partridge. (R) **12.40** 2009 Unwrapped with Miranda Hart. (R) **1.40** Film: Crossfire. (1947) Drama, starring Robert Mitchum. **3.05** Close.

ITV1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **10.25** Film: Carry On Screaming. (1966) British spoof horror, starring Kenneth Williams. **12.15** ITV News; Weather. **12.30** Film: Some Like It Hot. (1959) Romantic comedy, with Jack Lemmon, Tony Curtis and Marilyn Monroe. **2.50** The Railway Children. (R) **4.50** Film: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. (1971) Musical adventure, with Gene Wilder.

6.40 ITV News; Weather.
7.00 Emmerdale. Ryan jumps at the chance to go to Home Farm with Katie, but only because he cannot stop thinking about Maisie.
7.30 Coronation Street. Steve and Becky wonder if their marriage was a mistake.
8.00 Countrywise. Paul Heiney visits East Anglia. (R)
8.30 Coronation Street. Becky announces she is going to sleep on the sofa.
9.00 Agatha Christie's Marple. The elderly sleuth investigates when an old friend suspects foul play at the family home — and soon a theatrical performance for the guests leads to murder. Julia McKenzie stars.
11.00 ITV News; Weather.
11.15 Piers Morgan's Review of the Year. The events that dominated 2009. (R)

12.45 Film: Connie and Carla. (2004) Premiere. Comedy, starring Toni Collette; ITV News Headlines. **2.25** Six Degrees. (R) **3.10** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.05 Sali Mali. (R) **6.10** Planet Cook. (R) **6.30** Yo Gabba Gabba. (R) **6.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.20** Film: The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie. (2004) Children's animated comedy, with the voice of Tom Kenny. **8.50** T4: Friends. (R) **9.20** T4: Friends. (R) **9.55** T4: 90210. **10.50** T4: Mariah Carey Special: Under the Skin. **11.55** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. **12.55** Jamie at Home. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing from Cheltenham, Exeter and Catterick. **4.00** Deal or No Deal. **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.00 The Simpsons. Homer is jailed for 10 years. With the voice of Jon Lovitz. (R)
6.30 Hollyoaks. The villagers struggle to come to terms with the violent events of the previous night.
7.00 Channel 4 News.
7.05 FILM: The Italian Job. (1969) A crook puts together a foolproof plan to steal £4million in gold and make a quick getaway in a fleet of Minis. Crime comedy, starring Michael Caine.
9.05 The Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2009. Jimmy Carr is joined by celebrities including Charlie Brooker, Jonathan Ross, David Mitchell and Rob Brydon for the quiz show that looks back at events over the past 12 months.
11.10 Gordon Ramsay's F Word. Two international restaurants compete in the final heat. (R)

12.35 Rude Tube. (R) **1.35** The Last Dragon. (R) **3.30** Beach Volleyball. **4.20** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.05** Age of Love. (R) **5.55** Close.

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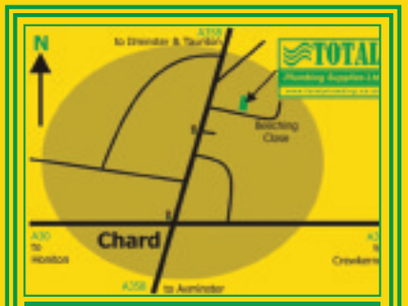

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Diary Dates

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WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6TH 2010

COLYTON: Over 60s Feoffees Party at Feoffees Town Hall from 4.15pm. Telephone 01297 552129 for more details.

TUESDAY JANUARY 19TH 2010

HONITON: Bargain Sale at the Mackarness Hall 9am - 12midday. Telephone 01404 831866 for more details.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20TH 2010

HONITON: U3A talk: Myths & Tales of the Moor by John Stuart. From 2pm in the British Legion Hall. Telephone 01404 41708 for more details.

TUESDAY JANUARY 26TH 2010

BEER: Beer Regatta AGM at Beer Social Club from 7.30pm. Telephone 01297 24944 for more details.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13TH 2010

HONITON: U3A talk: RNLI - Ordinary people doing extraordinary things by Brian Cole. From 2pm in the British Legion Hall. Telephone 01404 41708 for more details.

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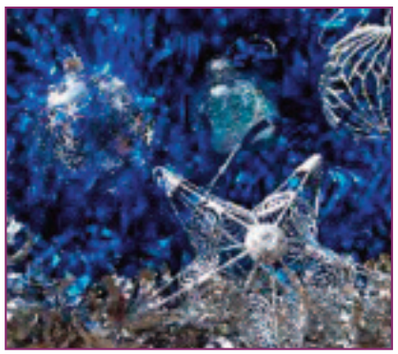

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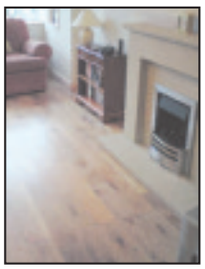

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More than 40 per cent of the 153-strong Ford Approved Repair Centre chain have already gained the increasingly important BSI PAS 125 standard and Kitemark licence and now, thanks to incentives offered by Ford, almost all of the remaining centres have signed up to become certified by the end of 2010.

"Ford is the first manufacturer fully to embrace the BSI PAS 125 Kitemark," said Nick Halliday, Ford's manager of collision repair marketing. "We believe that it's a vital standard to be achieved, a symbol of a quality product which brings peace of mind for the customer.

"The quality of repairs performed by our centres on Ford vehicles is already protected by our own rigorously checked standards; achieving the BSI PAS 125 Kitemark will mean that our repair centres can additionally offer a certified standard for non-Ford vehicles, which is something that leading insurers are increasingly insisting upon."

The PAS 125 Kitemark is operated by the independent standards and certification organisation BSI, and is an industry-agreed technical specification covering the whole process of vehicle body repair, detailing the minimum requirements for personnel training and maintenance of equipment, as well as the suitability of repair methods and the quality of materials used.

Scott Hanney, Sales Manager at BSI says "It is a fantastic step forward to have a vehicle manufacturer on board with Kitemark Vehicle Body Repair and we truly believe that Ford will soon see the benefits of this much-trusted Kitemark scheme."

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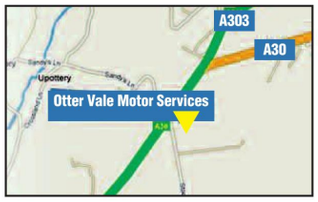

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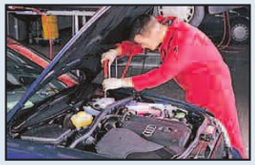

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Sport

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TABLE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Feniton Social B	15	9	2	4	64	56	20
Workies A	15	7	5	3	67	53	19
Blacksmiths Arms	15	6	6	3	65	55	18
Thirsty Farmer	15	5	7	3	66	54	17
Vine Inn A	15	6	4	5	59	61	16
New Fountain	15	4	8	3	61	59	16
Feniton Social A	15	7	1	7	57	63	15
Workies B	15	6	3	6	60	60	15
Three Tuns	15	6	2	7	61	59	14
Vine Inn B	15	4	5	6	60	60	13
Kings Arms	15	3	3	9	51	69	13
Winslade Club	15	3	2	10	49	71	8

Results, Thursday, December 17th: Blacksmith Arms 6 Vine Inn A 2,Feniton Soc B 2 Thirsty Farmer 6, Kings Arms 3 Feniton Soc A 5, New Fountain 4 Three Tuns 4,Vine Inn B 4 Working mens B 4,Working mens A 4 Winslade Club 4.
Captains Cup: Hedley Hawkins 0 Julie Davies 1, Jean Garside 0 Arthur Iball 1, Lionel Hawkins 0 Rita Freemantle 1,Lorrainne White 1 Terresa Baldwin 0,Peter Rippin 1 Amelia Bath 0, Steve Pettitt 1 Audrey Hawkins 0.
Upcoming Fixtures Thursday, January 7th: Feniton Soc A v New Fountain, Thirsty Farmer v Vine Inn B, Three Tuns v Feniton Soc B, Vine Inn A v Kings Arms, Winslade Club v Workingmens B, Workingmens A v Blacksmith Arms.

SEATON CRIBBAGE LEAGUE

RESULTS: November 24th: Golden Hind 4 Vaults Bar 5, Kings Arms 5 Royal Clarence 4, Seaton SC 5 Eyre Court 4.

Table	P	W	F	A	C/Cup
Royal Clarence	6	4	30	24	3
Kingfisher	6	4	29	25	2
Kings Arms	6	4	29	25	1
Vaults Bar	6	3	29	25	3
Golden Hind	6	2	27	27	3
Eyre Court	6	2	24	30	5
Seaton Social Club	6	2	22	32	4

HONITON RUNNERS

With *Alan Nicholls*

THE Reindeer Run at Otterton is always great fun and a festive atmosphere was certainly evident last Saturday.

There were plenty of Santas, elves and reindeer taking part together with dogs that were dressed for the season too.

Last year there was an enforced shortened route due to severe flooding the night before with plenty of deep water to wade through.

This year promised to be a more civilised race; the distance was back to 10k and all paths were back to normal.

The runners set off and although there was plenty of mud, the puddles were few and far between. This was the case for about 8k at which point runners needed to cross the road back at Otterton before completing the last part.

This involved being directed under the bridge and into deep water. What a shock to the system.

The water was freezing cold and waist height for the average sized person and for those vertically challenged the race had turned into a duathlon. If the runners were surprised, the dogs were startled. They never expected that!

The race was won by Chris Jones in a time of 38:05 and the first lady was Vicky Skelton in a time of 42:10. Honiton Running Club had a good turn out with Tim Legg having a go at this race for the first time finishing in seventh place and 41:20 saying he'll return next year.

Ever improving Bruce Strawbridge was next in 21st place and 44:24. He was given a run for his money by Richard Harvey who is coming back after a long break but has been training hard.

He finished three places and just 15 seconds behind Bruce in 24th place and 44:39.

Next home was Guy Paddon who was pleased with his run as he has not raced recently. Guy lost a fight with a bramble in the water and came out looking like his legs had been grated with a cheese grater.

Ceri Oak was the first Honiton lady home in 35th place and 46:19 followed by Judy Davey in 57th place and 48:57.

Judy had overtaken Roger Saunders fairly early on in the race and Roger then followed her with the same distance between them throughout.

He finished 62nd in 49:30. Warren Oak was 81st in 51:49 and Santa aka Brent Dicks was 104th in 54:15. Tracey Strawbridge completed the ladies' team in 192nd place and 1:11:10. There were 222 finishers in this race.

Prizes may have eluded the adults but the Juniors did not disappoint. In the 3k race Sam Urquhart was thirrd overall in 13:35 and Lily Helston was second girl with fifth place overall in a time of 13:52. Her sister Isabel also took home a prize as thirrd U12 girl. She was 18th overall in 16:17.

Katie Davey was the other winner of the day taking third U17 girl coming 23rd in a time of 16:30. Katie had a good battle with Jake Harvey and Kieran Anderson as well as Isabel. The four ended up with just 13 seconds between them and six places. Jake was 21st in 16:20 and Kieran was 22nd in 16:22. Jack Lovegrove was next home in 31st place and 18:30 with Ella Harvey not too far behind in 48th place and 20:06.

All juniors made the top 50 and with 135 finishers, this was some achievement.

Adult competitors were treated to mulled wine and a mince pie in the village hall afterwards and juniors were given some antlers as a souvenir.

Thanks to Graham Hill and his team who together with Sidmouth Running Club put on another fantastic event with money raised going to Otterton School.

Golf round-up

AXE CLIFF with Helen Gaudie

THE men played their third round of the Winter League and it was the first time they played in winter conditions, very cold and wind.

In first place with a superb 45 points was P. Miller and P. Hellier, second was B. Gray and P. Smith with 42 points and third spot went to S. Vincent and J. Hughes with 40 points.

The Ladies played their Christmas Stableford it was reduced from 15 to 13 holes due to the very cold winter conditions. The winner with 20 points was Sandra Walker second was the captain Chris Drew with 19 points, but there were no losers, as all the ladies received a prize from the captain.

HONITON with *Paul Dimond*

GOLF is not a big sport within the Arctic Circle. The reasons for this became evident to the Gentlemen of Honiton on Sunday Morning.

A little light rain turned into a scattering of snow which promptly froze in one of the hardest frosts of the winter. Those gents who managed to keep their car out of the ditch, were forced to play on rock hard fairways and temporary greens, never the easiest when the temperatures have yet to get above freezing.

Making the best of the conditions in this 'two scores to count' team competition were Chris Earle, Mike Godfrey and Dave Maggs with 64 points. Following on 62 were Paul Blackmore, Steve Branch and Merv Blackmore. Third place went to Norman Black, Buzz Harris and Steve Bronby 2 further back on 60.

Seniors Section

THE Christmas festivities started last week with the traditional Seniors Lunch.

With invited guests including the Club President, Captain, Lady Captain, Secretary and Golf Pro 71 Seniors enjoyed an excellent meal from Honiton's renowned kitchen. The Club Captain then entertained the assembled throng with his after dinner speech.

In order to produce a healthy appetite prior to the lunch the usual two short Stableford competitions were held . Winner of the back nine competition was Fred Thomas obviously benefitting from his new bionic knee. Mike Hunt took the front nine prize with a an impressive 23 points, 3 clear of his nearest rival. The biggest winner was perhaps Brian Smith who recorded the only two of the day and had to employ a couple of helpers to transport the sixty balls he won.

"Jack Frost" was the winner in this weeks Medal competition producing a record number of excuses not to play. Fifty four brave souls were however not deterred and in Division Two Steve Blundell proved equal to the conditions coming top with a net score of 69. Malcolm Matthews 71, Ray Cross 72, Colin Hughes 74 and Norman Ede 74 were the other winners.

In Division One and overall winner of the monthly tankard was Peter Shepherd also on 69. Bill Spice 73, Stan Squire 73, Geoff Filtness 75 and Harold Cook 76 were the other winners.

Once again only one two was recorded and Harold Cook wore the biggest smile of the day as he also able to go home with 48 golf balls.

Ladies Section

ON Wednesday the Ladies played a N/Q Stableford with frosted temporary greens making putting interesting.

Due to the number of players taking part the Silver and Bronze One Division was combined. The winner with 34 pts on c/b - Linda Northover. 2nd on c/b also 34 pts - Diana Gee. Bronze 2 - New member Lesley Farley with an excellent 39 pts. 2nd - Jan Lloyd 34 pts.

Mixed

THIRTY members played a Christmas Bring and Win Greensomes Stableford on Tuesday over 14 holes.

The prize table had a variety of items brought by the players and a number of the men had chosen to wear their Christmas Ties.

The first three place couples all had 25 points but on c/b the first pair to choose a prize were Joy Kerr and Vaughan Whiteley. 2nd on c/b were Gerda Brown and John Northover. 3rd on c/b were Barbara Eastwood and John Frith. 4th with 24 points - Avril and Peter Shepherd. 5th with 23 points - Linda Northover and Chris Poole. 6th - with 21 points - Sue Ritchie and Richard Pyle.

The remaining players then selected their prizes making everyone a winner.

SEATON SNOOKER

Pike still unbeaten

Results: COLYTON FEDS 0 HONITON WONDERERS 6. HONITON WMC 3+2 COLYTON EXCONS 3, CHARD B 5 SIDMOUTH WMC 1.

Honiton Wonderers moved five points clear at the top of the league after thrashing Colyton Feds 0-6 away.

All three players won their frames with ease and B. Pike is still to lose a frame this season.

Honiton WMC went second after a 3-3 draw at home to Colyton Excons, J. Cann won the first two frames for the Workies against M. Parker before N. Whitfield won his two frames against D. Wills for the Excons.

The last two frames were drawn but R. Selway got two bonus points for winning a frame against S. Rampaul.

The bottom of the table clash between Chard B and Sidmouth WMC finished in an easy win for Chard 5-1. N. Wilmington and R. Keech won their frames against R. Pile and P. Martin for Chard either side of C. Cripps drawing his two frames against the Gidley brothers. Sidmouth are still the only side not to win this season.

	P	W	D	L	Pts	Bonus	Tot
Honiton Wonderers	7	7	0	0	38	0	38
Honiton WMC	8	2	4	2	23	10	33
Colyton Feds	8	1	5	2	19	12	31
Chard Casuals	7	1	2	4	16	14	30
Colyton Excons	8	2	4	2	27	2	29
Chard B	7	2	4	1	22	4	26
Sidmouth WMVC	7	0	3	4	11	6	17

30+ Breaks: B. Pike 32, S.Canniford (both Honiton Wonderers).

Lyme Regis Cribbage

with *Clive Garner*

Results for Monday, December 14th Week 14

AXE Vale Club go joint top of the League after winning 3-2 at home to Nags Head Lyme Regis.

The other joint leaders are Axminstere Cons despite their 4-1 home defeat by Beer Club. Bottom side Rocky II won at home to Axe Valiants 3-2 while Royal Oak Flunkies Charmouth lost 3-2 at home to Stepps. In the other match New Inn Kilmington beat visiting Ship Lyme Regis 4-1.

In the Beer League leaders Ship Inn Lyme Regis lost for the second time this season, 2-1, at New Inn KIlmington. Royal Oak Charmouth Flunkies are third after going down 2-1 at home to Stepps whilst Beer Club won 2-1 at Axminster Cons.

Bottom side Rocky II lost 2-1 at home to Axe Valiants. The final game ended in a 2-1 victory for Nags Head Lyme Regis at Axe Vale Club.

Table	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Axe Vale Club	13	9	4	38	27	38
Axminster Cons	13	9	4	38	27	38
Nags Head LR	13	7	6	37	28	37
Lamb Swans	12	8	4	35	25	35
Axe Valiants	12	7	5	32	28	32
Beer Club	12	6	6	32	28	32
New Inn Kilm	13	6	7	32	33	32
Ship Inn LR	13	7	6	31	34	31
Royal Flunkies	13	4	9	29	36	29
Stepps	13	4	9	23	42	23
Rocky II	13	3	10	23	42	23

BEER LEAGUE

Table	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Ship Inn LR	13	11	2	26	13	26
New Inn Kilm	13	7	6	21	18	21
Royal Flunkies	13	7	6	21	18	21
Beer Club	12	8	4	20	16	20
Lamb Swans	12	6	6	19	17	19
Stepps	13	6	7	19	20	19
Axe Valiants	12	6	6	18	18	18
Axe Vale Club	13	5	8	18	21	18
Nags Head LR	13	5	8	18	21	18
Axminster Cons	13	6	7	17	22	17
Rocky II	13	3	10	13	26	13

◆ There are no fixtures until Monday, January 11th

Sport

FOOTBALL & SKITTLES

FOOTBALL RESULTS, FIXTURES AND TABLES

Devon & Exeter League

STRUGGLING Feniton recovered from a two goal deficit at home to St Martins to grab a 2-2 draw and had two big chances near the end to have won it. Two Simon Madge goals put St Martins in charge, but John Phillips with a terrific solo goal and Ben Allen scored to earn Feniton a very useful point.

The shock new Premier leaders are Thorverton after their thrilling 4-3 win at Sidmouth Town. Both teams took to the field without a manager, and it was Sidmouth who went two goals ahead and looked well in control.

However Thorverton scored three goals in ten minutes before the break, the Vikings then made it 3-3 before substitute Scott Laskey came on and nabbed the winner. Andy Isaacs, Andy Thompson and Wes Tarr were the Sidmouth scorers.

Just one game survived the weather in Division ONE but saw Seaton Town regain top spot despite being held to a 1-1 draw by Beacon Knights. Josh French had the Seaton goal, Ryan Crocker equalised for the Exeter side who were rated the best team to play at Colyford road this season. Miles Alphonse starred for Seaton.

Hemyock won the only game played in Division Five at Exmouth Amateurs where they ran out 6-1.

UAU Exeter won 7-3 at Uplowman after being 3-2 down at the break. Shaun Leeg, Ant Taylor (pen) and Ben Hellier were the home scorers.

Ottery St Mary were 8-2 winners at Silverton with Wharton (2), Weeks (2), Searle, Salter, Purdy and an own goal counting, and Beer Albion won an entertaining match against the University 6-3 with James Melville scoring twice.

Rex Kirby, Sean Denslow, Jamie Trewick and Bob Adkin had singles.

RESULTS & TABLES

PREMIER

Budleigh Saltert 1 Exmouth Amat 0
Clyst Valley v Wellington Town PP
Feniton 2 St Martins 2
Newtown 2 Otterton 1
Sidmouth Town 3 Thorverton 4
Topsham Town 1 Hatherleigh Town 2
University 2 Alphington 2
Willand Rovers v Heavitree SU P-P

DIVISION 1

Bow AAC v Sidbury Utd P-P
Cullompton Rangers v Halwill P-P
East Budleigh v Broadclyst P-P
Heavitree SU v Culm Utd P-P
Morchard Bishop v Beer Albion P-P
Seaton Town 1 Beacon Knights 0
University v Elmore P-P

DIVISION 2

Dawlish Town 2 Witheridge 3
Exeter CS v Barnstaple Town P-P
Exmouth Amat v North Tawton P-P
Honiton Tn v Axminster Town P-P
Newtown 3 Westexe Rovers 1
University v Uplowman Athletic P-P
Upottery v Tipton St John PP

DIVISION 3

Colyton v Clyst Valley P-P
Kentisbeare v Crescent P-P
Lympstone v Chard Town P-P
Phoenix Club v Topsham Town P-P
Pinhoe v Royal Marines P-P
South Zeal Utd v Lapford P-P

PREMIER	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Thorverton	12	8	1	3	49	28	25
St Martins	14	7	4	3	26	20	25
Exmouth Amats	13	8	0	5	26	18	24
Topsham Town	11	7	2	2	36	12	23
Heavitree SU	10	7	2	1	28	12	23
Sidmouth Town	11	7	1	3	30	17	22
Newtown	10	7	1	2	25	15	22
Budleigh Salterton	14	7	0	7	23	29	21
Willand Rovrs	11	5	3	3	17	11	18
Clyst Valley	14	5	1	8	19	21	16
Hatherleigh Town	11	3	3	5	19	24	12
Alphington	13	2	5	6	17	26	11
Wellington Tn	12	3	2	7	15	30	11
University	9	1	4	4	9	15	7
Feniton	13	1	3	9	24	46	6
*Otterton	12	1	0	11	9	48	2

* pts deducted

DIVISION 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Seaton Town	7	6	1	0	25	8	19
Heavitree SU	9	6	1	2	26	13	19
Cullompton	7	6	0	1	17	10	18
Beer Albion	10	4	2	4	17	9	14
Sidbury Utd	8	4	2	2	11	6	14
Bow AAC	7	3	3	1	19	13	12
Morchard Bish	8	3	3	2	15	10	12
Halwill	6	3	1	2	11	11	10
University	9	2	4	3	14	17	10
Beacon Knghts	9	2	3	4	12	16	9
Broadclyst	10	2	2	6	11	21	8
East Budleigh	8	1	3	4	7	14	6
*Elmore	10	2	1	7	11	28	6
Culm United	8	0	2	6	5	25	2

DIVISION 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
North Tawton	8	6	0	2	26	9	18
University	9	5	2	2	24	15	17
Tipton St John	7	5	1	1	25	8	16
Barnstaple Town	7	5	1	1	17	6	16
Witheridge	10	4	6	0	26	16	18
Uplowman Athletic	10	3	4	3	19	20	13
Honiton Town	7	3	3	1	17	11	12
*Axminster Town	11	4	2	5	27	29	10
Newtown	7	3	1	3	16	18	10
*Exe Civil Service	11	2	5	4	19	28	9
Westexe Rovers	11	2	2	7	15	27	8
*Exmouth Amats	8	2	3	3	15	27	4
Upottery	8	0	3	5	5	17	3
*Dawlish Town	12	1	3	8	19	39	-5

Perry Street League

JUBILEE CUP FINAL

THE pick of the League XI's match at Somerton against the Yeovil & District League was a casualty of the weekend's frozen pitches. The match will be re-scheduled for an evening match, possibly at Sherborne, in the New Year.

TOMMY TABBERER CUP ROUND ONE

UPLYME were furious that the first round tie at Beaminster Reserves was cancelled by referee Kelvin Day 40 seconds after the hosts had taken a 3-2 lead.

Assistant manager Andy Cleere said: "We felt the pitch was too dangerous to even start the match, but the referee felt it was ok. But for him then to abandon it just after Beaminster had scored, and the cut-off time of 70 minutes had lapsed, was puzzling."Beaminster stormed into an early 2-0 lead through Chris Park and Dan Hyett before Gavin Fowler pulled one back.

Beaminster's Tommy Record was then showed a straight red card by referee Day for a cynical foul on Adam Neale which left the promising teenager unable to continue, and with no substitutes Uplyme, like The Rainbows played the remainder of the match with 10 men.

Fowler netted his fifth of the season to level things up. Then Pyett grabbed his second and the game was stopped soon after. The two teams await the findings of PSL.

REG EGLON CUP QUARTER-FINAL

CHARD United Reserves have a semi-final at Waytown Hounds on January 16th to look forward to after a 2-0 victory over Hawkchurch Reserves on a crispy Jocelyn Park.

The Hawks' looked to be in the ascendancy and heading for their first away win of the season after defending the slope and heading into the interval at 0-0. But Stefan Coombs with his eighth goal of the season and top-scorer Ricky Anderson with his 11th had other ideas.

Top performer for the visitors was Joe Carter in his holding midfield role. The other semi-final will see Thorncombe Reserves entertain cup favourites Farway United Reserves.

DIVISION TWO

AFTER a six-week lay-off it was back to business as usual for Millwey Rise who re-established their seven point lead at the top with a comfortable 3-0 win over Chard United at First Avenue.

Goals from Danny Larcombe and Adam Whitehouse gave the Slopers a 2-0 lead at the break. Michael Knight completed the scoring with Chard offering very little threat to the Rise goal. Top performers for Millwey were central-midfielder Callum Garrett and right-back Haydn Lewis.

A freak goal from Ashley Rose gave him his seventh goal of the campaign and second-placed Norton Athletic all three points at Hinton. Rose scuffed a corner kick along the floor to deceive Saints' defenders and goalkeeper alike and creep over the line.

Dowlish & Donyatt ended a run of four home defeats with a 2-0 win over visiting Forton Rangers Reserves. It was goal less at the break but strikes from Andy North and Chris Lang were enough to see the hosts, with Ben Charlton in sparkling form, head into 2010 in third spot.

Table (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Millwey Rise	10	9	1	0	30	13	28
Norton Athletic	9	7	0	2	35	17	21
Dowlish & Don	10	4	1	5	30	32	13

DIVISION FOUR

WINSHAM United Reserves are in pole-position heading into the New Year after crushing bottom of the table Charmouth Reserves 9-1 at Bakers Field.

Goals from Vinny Allen and Richard White saw the Winsh 2-0 up at-half time. The second half saw the goals scattered around between White, Ryan Powell (2), Carl Moore, Henry Broom, Paul Stuart and Rob Long with Dan Edwards on target for the Robins.

The result gave Winsham their biggest win for more than three years when Chard United Reserves were thrashed 10-1.

Promotion chasing Waytown Hounds received a set-back when theyr were beaten 4-2 at Ilminster A. Goals from Luke Paul, Josh House and an OG put the hosts firmly in control before Tom Rutland reduced the arrears. House scored his second from the penalty spot to give his side a 4-1 interval advantage.

There were two more penalties in the second-half - one for each team - and both were saved, House and Matt Read being the unsuccessful men.

Rutland did net his second but Ilminster were worth their points.

Farway United Reserves completed a League double with a 3-0 win at Combe B who failed to find the net for the first time this season. Lewis Grant (2) and Chris Legg were on target for the visitors.

FIXTURE

Coronation Cup Final, Boxing Day
Lyme Regis v South Petherton
(at Combe, 11am ko.)

South-West Peninsula League

RESULTS

Saturday, December 19th
Axminster v Okehampton P-P

FIXTURES

Boxing Day
Axminster v Ottery St Mary 11am

SKITTLES SCORES AND TABLES

COLYTON

Division 1: Lamb B 358 (S Kowal 65) Axe Vale B 372 (T Miller 67); Axe con 367 (D Board 69) Gerrard B 320 (J Tucker 61); New Inn A 358 (R Webb 71) Tuckers B 344 (R Seward 67); Gerrard A 334 (R Gay 59) Honiton WMC. A 335(S Palfrey 63); Eagle Tavern 415 (S Weech 81) Vine B 420 (D Blackmore 77); Red Lion Cavaliers 411 (W Phillips 90) Lamb A 396 (S Pomeroy 74); Mountbatten Whites 341 (T Revell 65) Honiton RBL. A 386 (D Davies 74).

Division 2: Axe Vale A 349 (A Freeman 73) Sidbury SC A 327 (D Cody 63); Sidbury Stones 375 (J Woodfield 73) Red Lion A 386 (Margaret Miller, S Flint 70); Harbour A 403 (N Widger 79) Carpets B 384 (P Hammett 75); Carpets A 349 (S Palmer 71) Harbour B 329 (S Hitchcock 59); Vine A 341 (C Every 68) Honiton RBL. D 341 (Wil Tratt 73); Tuckers A 320 (D Dower 60) Harbour C 313 (R Gush 56);Tuckers C 333 (T Patch 64) Three Tuns A 345 (J Bishop 66).

Division 3: Seaton AFC A 460 (J French 101) Rising Sun A 476 (T Churchill 97); Colcombe B 357 (V Wood 77) Offwell A 384 (I Bell 79); Three Tuns Harts 351 (S Land 70) Volunteer A 390 (A Absolon 72); Beer Albion 326 (C Hales 66) Colcombe A 321 (C Tucker 62); Harbour Beerboys 457 (N Hales 93) Kingfisher A 404 (R Parsons 75); Honiton WMC B 285 (R Isaac 56) Beer B 287 (C Taylor 60);Axe Vale C v Axe Inn B late card.

Division 4: Axe Inn A 348 (J Ellis 71) Seaton Social B 277 (J Lewis 56); Seaton Bowling Club 316 (R Follenfant 61) White Hart A 296 (W Parr 55); Rising Sun B 358 (R Clode 71) Star C 356 (Yvonne Rayner 66); Honiton RBL.B 354 (R Curry 66) Red Lion Sid 369 (R Clinton, J Beaton, M Paver 65); Volunteer B 362 (L Poll 76) New Inn B 319 (P Ross 60); Beer A 354 (B Hawker 68) Honiton Con A 319 (G Mills 56); White Hart B v Beer Vikings late card.

Division 5: Kingfisher B 353 (L Bright 67) Old Inn A 338 (C Alexander 67); Honiton RBL.C 327 (M Fletcher 65) Seaton AFC B 367 (K Reid 81); Star B 339 (P Eland 63) Kings Arms A 317 (B Addington 66); Old Inn B 302 (Zoe Nex 54) Stockland B 310 (J Johnson, D Roberts 56); Kings Arms B 333 (M Bucknall 65) Star A 324 (R Westwood 62).

Division 1	P	W	D	L	Pts
Axe Con A	13	11	0	2	22
Gerrard A	13	9	0	4	18
Lamb A	13	9	0	4	18
Red Lion Cavs	13	9	0	4	18
Axe Vale SC B	13	8	0	5	16
Vine B	13	8	0	5	16
New Inn A	13	7	0	6	14
Honiton RBL. A	13	6	0	7	12
Lamb B	13	6	0	7	12
Gerrard B	13	5	0	8	10
Mountbatten Whites	13	5	0	8	10
Honiton WMC. A	13	3	0	10	6
Tuckers Arms B	13	3	0	10	6
Eagle Tavern	13	2	0	11	4

Division 2	P	W	D	L	Pts
Sidbury SC Stones	13	11	0	2	22
Honiton RBL. D	13	9	1	3	19
Vine A	13	8	1	4	17
Three Tuns A	13	8	0	5	16
Axe Vale SC A	13	7	0	6	14
Harbour C	13	7	0	6	14
Tuckers Arms A	12	6	0	6	12
Sidbury S.C. A	12	5	0	7	10
Tuckers Arms C	13	5	0	8	10
Axe Carpets A	13	5	0	8	10
Harbour A	13	5	0	8	10
Harbour B	13	5	0	8	10
Red Lion A	13	5	0	8	10
Axe Carpets B	13	3	0	10	6

Division 3	P	W	D	L	Pts
Offwell A	13	12	0	1	24
Harbour BB	13	9	0	4	18
Colcombe A	13	8	1	4	17
Beer Albion	13	8	0	5	16
Kingfisher A	13	8	0	5	16
Rising Sun A	13	8	0	5	16
Three Tuns Harts	13	7	0	6	14
Beer S.C. B	13	7	0	6	14
Axe Inn B	12	5	0	7	10
Axe Vale S.C. C	12	4	0	8	8
Seaton AFC A	13	4	0	9	8
Volunteer A	13	4	0	9	8
Honiton WMC B	13	3	1	9	7
Colcombe B	13	2	0	11	4

Division 4	P	W	D	L	Pts
Beer A	12	9	0	3	18
Star C	13	8	2	3	18
White Hart B	12	8	1	3	17
Beer Vikings	12	8	0	4	16
New Inn B	13	6	1	6	13
Volunteer B	12	6	0	6	12
Honiton Con A	13	6	0	7	12
Axe Inn A	13	5	1	7	11
Honiton RBL B	13	5	1	7	11
Seaton Bowling	11	5	0	6	10
Rising Sun B	12	5	0	7	10
Red Lion Sidbury	13	5	0	8	10
Seaton Social B	12	5	0	7	9
White Hart A	13	3	0	10	6

Division 5	P	W	D	L	Pts
Kingfisher B	12	10	0	2	20
Star B	12	9	0	3	18
Honiton Con B	11	8	0	3	16
Ship	11	7	0	4	14
Honiton RBL C	12	7	0	5	14
Kings Arms A	12	7	0	5	14
Stockland B	12	7	0	5	14
Star A	12	6	0	6	12
Seaton AFC B	12	5	0	7	10
Old Inn A	12	4	0	8	8
Seaton Social A	12	4	0	8	8
Kings Arms B	12	3	0	9	6
Old Inn B	12	0	0	12	0

HONITON: Results for Dec 16th.

Division 1 - Red Cow 367 (L Gillard 69) Volunteer A 332 (R Selway 62), Feniton Force 394 (M Chipperfield 73) Offwell 377 (W Tratt 73), Wmc A 307 (N Burroughs 53) Vine B 282 (P Snell 53),Three Tuns B 383 (K Collins 74) Scruffs 424 (D Drew 85), Hon Con A 338 (G Pidgeon 61) Beasty Boys 3539 (Te Martin 62), Smidgers 341 (S Brealy 64) Blacksmiths 312 (J Caller 56).

Division 2 - Raiders 363 (A Meecham 72) Nog Inn 349 (G Broadhurst 67),Coasters 349 (D Lewis 63) Tuckers A 328 (M Mcalpine 62), Woodpeckers 303 (B Painter 62) Hillbillies 312 (A Clyburn 60) Vine A 326 (C Partridge 59) Woodpeckers 319 (L Pearce 58), Wild Things v Three Tuns A P-P, Legion V lost to Cricketers.

Division 3 - Misfits 333 (B Huxley 63) Bluebirds 287 (R Doble 57),Tuckers B 314 (D Evans 58) Angels 296 (M Case 55),Ups And Downs 319 (R Enticott 64) Allsorts 309 (C Fox 65), Pwp 331 (A Baker 64) Shells Belles 314 (M Larcombe 61),Volly Vixens 292 (W Broom 53) Highfield A 316 (M Grigg 62),Bluebelles v Monks (No Card), Ring And Ride v Legion Blue (No Card).

AXMINSTER MEN

Division 1: Kings Arms Seaton 344 (D Johnson 65) v Ax Con Rebels 386 (V Trott,P Pomeroy 72), Lamb Spartans 347 (C Miller 68) v Lamb C 341 (G Maber 64), Kings Arms Stk A 363 (D Doble 69) v Thorncombe B 339 (K Fursman 61), Red Devils 432 (D Huntley 80) v Old Inn Kilm A 378 (N Cornelius 72), Gerrard A 301 (P Clode 53) v B&G'S 346 (M Enticott, D Board 65), Axe Inn Jokers 385 (M Churchill 72) v Lamb A 375 (A Day 69)

Division 2: Ax Con Club A 315 (A Thomas 57) v Colcombe A 312 (J Williams 66), Carpetbaggers 359 (J Bilson 67) v Harbour Feds 316 (C Challis 63), Hawk H/Cs 345 (I Strawbridge, N Herrod 66) v Ax Inn XR 359 (T Pratt, M Taylor, D Cook 62), Old Inn Kilm B 316 (J Smart 57) v Red Lion D 312 (P Vipond 60).

Division 3

Colcombe B 382 (P Wyatt 76) v Ax Inn A 384 (B Margetts 78), Gerrard D 324 (P Strawbridge 58) v Elvis Kingfisher 277 (W Vincent 53), New Inn A 343 (D Hodder 68) v Tuckers Maggots 341 (M Schultze 65), Lamb D 326 (R Pearse 66) v Gerrard C 320 (B Webber 61).

Division 4

Ax Inn B 350 (R Bebb 70) v Offwell SC 312 (P Sellick 57), Seaton BC 301 (R McDonald 71) v Harbour Rotary 285 (S Dunn 60), Old Inn Hawk B 340 (R Hooper 65) v New Inn Hawks 347 (G Searle 63), Kingfisher A 322 (J Mason 63) v George Chdstk 322 (J McClimmonds 64).

Late Ellis Shield Results Round 1

Kingfisher A 144 v Tuckers 163, Lamb D 276 v Gerrard B 280, Red Lion C 325 v Gerrard A 303, Harbour Hawks 196 v Hawkchurch Halfcuts 263, Colcombe A 280 v New Inn Hawks 148.

We are still waiting for three results so next round will now be printed after Christmas

Division 1	P	W	D	L	Pts
B & G's	14	11	0	3	22
Red Lion Red Devils	14	10	1	3	21
Ax Con Club Rebels	14	10	0	4	20
Lamb Spartans	14	9	1	4	19
Lamb A	14	7	0	7	14
Old Inn Kilm A	14	7	0	7	14
Axe Inn Jokers (T)	14	6	1	7	13
Axe Vale A	13	6	0	7	12
Thorncombe Drifters	13	5	1	7	11
Gerrard A	14	5	1	8	11
Kings Arms Seaton A	14	5	1	8	11
Kings Arms Stock A	14	4	2	8	10
Thorncombe B	14	4	0	10	8
Lamb C (T)	14	4	0	10	8

Division 2	P	W	D	L	Pts
Harbour Feds	14	11	0	3	22
Axe Inn XR (T)	14	10	0	4	20
Colcombe A	14	8	0	6	16
Axevale Stars	13	8	0	5	16
New Inn Kilm C	13	8	0	5	16
Axe Carpetbagg	14	8	0	6	16
Red Lion D	14	7	0	7	14
W.Hart Wilm A	13	6	0	7	12
Axe Con Club A	14	6	0	8	12
Seaton Town FC	13	5	0	8	10
Old Inn Kilm B	14	5	0	9	10
Hawk Halfcuts	14	5	0	9	9
Cotley Inn(T)	13	4	0	9	8
New Inn Z (T)	13	4	0	9	7

Division 3	P	W	D	L	Pts
Gerrard D (T)	13	10	0	3	20
Lamb D (T)	13	9	0	4	18
Tuckers Maggots	13	8	0	5	16
Axminster Inn A	13	8	0	5	16
New Inn Kilm A	13	7	0	6	14
Old Inn Hawk A	12	7	0	5	14
Gerrard B	12	7	0	5	14
Elvis Kingfishers	13	6	1	6	13
Thorncombe A	11	6	0	5	12
Colcombe B	13	4	0	9	8
Harbour Hawks	12	4	0	8	8
Red Lion C (T)	12	2	1	9	5
Gerrard C (T)	12	2	0	10	4

Division 4	P	W	D	L	Pts
George Chardsk	13	10	1	2	21
Tuckers Luck	12	8	1	3	17
Axminster Inn B	13	8	0	5	16
Offwell Social	12	8	0	4	16
Kingfisher A	13	6	1	6	13
Tuckers A (T)	10	7	0	3	12
Ship A	11	6	0	5	12
Old Inn Hawk B	13	5	0	8	10
Harbour Rotary	13	4	0	9	8
Kingfisher Nom	10	4	0	6	7
Seaton Bowl A	13	4	0	9	7
New Inn Hawks	12	3	1	8	7
Tuckers B	11	3	0	8	6

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AXMINSTER DARTS

Lamb lead the way

Singles Div One	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lamb A	6	5	1	0	18	6	18
Vault A	6	3	3	0	16	8	16
Axminster Inn	6	3	0	3	13	11	13
Baby Sheep	6	3	1	2	12	12	12
New Inn	4	2	1	1	10	6	10
Beer Pirates	5	1	1	3	9	11	9
Vault B	6	1	1	4	6	18	6
Castle Flyers	5	0	0	5	4	16	4

Division Two	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Double or Nothing	8	6	2	0	26	6	26
Castle Swans	7	5	0	2	19	9	19
Castle	6	5	1	0	18	6	18
Young Farmers A	6	4	0	2	16	8	16
Young Farmers B	7	2	1	4	11	17	11
A Load of Bull	8	1	2	5	10	22	10
Cocks & Hens	8	2	1	5	10	22	10
Con Club A	8	0	1	7	6	26	6

Team Div One	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lamb A	5	5	0	0	28	2	10
Vault A	5	4	1	0	22	8	9
Axminster A	6	4	0	2	19	17	8
Baby Sheep	6	2	3	1	17	19	7
Vault B	6	2	1	3	17	19	5
Castle Flyers	5	1	0	4	10	20	2
Beer Pirates	5	0	1	4	7	23	1
New Inn	4	0	0	4	6	18	0

Division Two	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Double or Nothing	8	7	1	0	41	7	15
Castle	6	5	1	0	30	6	11
Castle Swans	7	3	1	3	16	26	7
Young Farmers B	7	2	3	2	21	21	7
Young Farmers A	6	2	3	1	20	16	7
Con Club A	8	2	1	5	17	31	5
A Load of Bull	8	1	1	6	17	31	3
Cocks & Hens	8	1	1	6	12	36	3

Rugby Round-up with *Keith Jenkin*

THE WEATHER WINS!

WHAT the rain has been trying to achieve in the way of postponed league matches, with only a modicum of success in recent weeks, the frost managed to do passing well on Saturday last.

A bone hard Allhallows caused the HONITON club's league game against visitors SOUTH MOLTON, together with their Colts' battle with Exeter Chiefs Colts, to be called off.

SIDMOUTH too had to postpone their South West League Division One (West) encounter. They did have some hopes that the game might be able to go ahead, and, in fact, opponents IVY-BRIDGE travelled.

The referee however ruled that the match should not proceed on health and safety grounds. All the club's other games also fell victim to the weather.

Postponements were, in the event, widespread and, of the teams in my patch, only Dorchester any saw action and they travelled to Bath and lost to Oldfield Old Boys by 32-10.

Not a particularly good day all round.

To add insult to injury so to speak, an overnight shower on Saturday, followed by clearing skies, made many roads resemble glass bottles, and no Honiton Juniors games took place on Sunday morning as a result.

PREVIEW

AS Saturday next happens to be Boxing Day, league rugby will, of course, take a day off. Both local clubs will be engaged in more informal activities however.

SIDMOUTH stage their traditional Club versus President's XV at the Blackmoor that has a kick off time of 2.30pm. Generally speaking, Presidents' sides include quite a number of exiles, guys who, although they work away from home, are spending the holiday with the family.

These occasions represent a chance to catch up with old chums, and I doubt if this one will be too different.

HONITON have a rather more relaxed idea to celebrate the festive occasion. At 11.30am on Boxing morning, an inter club encounter will take place.

Come one, come all will be guaranteed a run out if they bring boots (and may be those who do not). It will be really a free for all and no excuse, be it unfitness, inebriation, (especially not that one) or never having played the game before, will be accepted.

In fact it represents a chance to run off the excesses of the previous 24 hours, and as such should represent a "must" in which to partake.

May you have all you would wish for yourselves this Christmas, and beyond.

FIXTURES

26th December - Honiton Inter-Club Game KO 11.00 for 11.30am; Sidmouth v President's XV KO 2.30pm.

ECB colts awards for Axminster cricketers

OVER the last ten weeks some 40 aspiring young cricketers have been involved in an ECB introductory course run by coaches from the club.

On Sunday evening many were present to receive certificates on completion of the course. Club President Les Haynes was on hand to present certificates to all that had attended and in his address he noted that the club should be proud of it's achievements with regard to the organisation of the junior section.

He thanked the coaches led by Andrew Moulding and Dan Murnane, together with their coaching assistants, in continuing the winter sessions. He also thanked the many parents who showed their support by attending the evening.

The players and coaches now take a break for a few weeks but coaching/practice sessions will recommence in the new year.

The club has this winter already seen three members acquiring their Level 1 Coaching Award and have three more expecting to obtain the same level early in 2010.

A truly satisfying side of this for the club is that many of the qualified coaches within the club would have started their cricketing career on the introductory course as juniors several years ago and have now graduated to be in a position to encourage others.

Parents to have been ecouraged to help over the years and some now feel confident enough to aim for the coaching assistance award.

The club has been fortunate in obtaining funding to assist with the course fees for, not only coaches, but also those for umpires and scorers. Anyone interested in becoming involved should contact the club secretary Geoff Enticott 01297 32147.

◆ AXMINSTER CC young cricketers with their coaches.

SIDBURY YOUTH FC

◆ SIDBURY U13s footballers pictured before last week's 3-2 defeat at Stoke Hill.

Axminster Ladies Skittles

Division 1: Axe Inn A (R Crichard/C Banner 63) 339, Axevale Hits and Misses (A Barnes 63) 337; Axevale Club C (B Loveridge 58) 326, Axe Inn Dragons (E Legg 57) 309; Harbour A (P Goodhew 73) 364, Axe Carpets A (M MacDonald 74) 374; Red Lion A (C Spiller 77) 416, Colcombe B (S Chaplin 65) 354; Seaton Bowling Club (R Follenfant 59) 290, Harbour Lights (J Welsh 52) 288; Thorncombe Newtops (M Fursman 67) 325, Kings Arms Stockland A (M Hembrow 63) 335.

Division 2: Axmouth Angles (C Packman 53) 291, Seaton Social Club A (H Smith 58) 294; Colcombe A (L Searl 87) 383, Red Lion Rabble (G Hall 69) 352; Kings Army Seaton (L Pascoe 61) 299, New Inn B (M Gardner 54) 294; New Inn A (P Hurford 63) 293, George Chardstock A (D Harrison 55) 307; Axe Carpets B (H Phillips 56) 287, Lamb A (M Churchill 67) 331; Kingfisher A, Thorncombe A; Match cancelled by Thorncombe A, 1 point deducted.

Division 3: Gerrard Guzzlers (M Kiff 55) 287, Tuckers Arms B (C Cole 49) 263; Harbour Antics (M Stone 67) 334,Perfect Pins (K Harding 63) 285; Lambettes (S Vickery 68) 335, Axe Con Club (P Kowel 60) 334; Seaton Football Club (P Fry 73) 368, White Hart Wanderers Wilm (A Pammenter 75) 377; Tuckers Arms A (L Ross 63) 290, Gerrard A (M Clode 55) 288; Old Inn Hawks, White Hart MH; Match cancelled by White Hart MH, 1 point deducted.

HONITON NETBALL

With *Graham Ingram*

HONITON Netball League would like to wish every one of the readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This week was the final week before Christmas and games will resume early in the New Year.

Results - Division Two: Bampton 51 CMC Birds 1, Flmingos B 20 Weather Girls 26, Sidmouth Toucans 42 MNAS Vehicle Repairs 27, Tip Top Trees Acorns 32 Lyme Bay 8.

FLAMINGOS had to face unbeaten Met Office with just six players, nevertheless they made the Weather girls work hard.

With Becks Green once again in great form for the Met Office they were 8-3 up at half way before Flamingos outscored them in the second period to find themselves 10-14 down at half way. The third quarter was also close with Poppy Williams having a fine game for Flamingos, so that at the start of the final period Weather Girls were just five up at 21-16. Although Flamingos worked hard their player disadvantage told and they ended the night on the wrong end of the 26-20 scoreline.

Weather Girls are now two points clear at the top and still unbeaten. Tip Top Trees Acorns moved back into second place due to their comfortable win over Lyme Bay. Acorns led from the off and never looked in danger and ended the night winners by 32-8, a much more convincing win than when they had last met. Bampton did their promotion chances a power of good when they recorded their second big win over CMC Birds, and for the second time this season restricted the Birds to a single goal. Bampton scored a convincing 51-1 win to give themselves the best goal difference in the division! Player of the night for Bampton was Debbie Blakes.

Final game of the night saw Sidmouth Toucans retain their hopes of promotion thanks to a win over NAS. With Helen Terry playing well they were just too strong for NAS for whom Sarah Green once again turned in a fine display. Sidmouth led 20-12 at halfway. and headed into the final session 34-18 when then ended up winners by 42-27. The score gave NAS a point and kept them in seventh place.

	Pld	GD	Pts
Met Office	10	150	28
Tip Top Trees Acorns	10	120	26
Flamingos B	10	113	25
Bampton	10	177	24
Sidmouth Toucans	9	44	19
JD Tyres	8	40	12
NAS	11	-83	10
Lyme Bay*	11	-145	9
CMC Birds*	11	-400	-6

Axminster Bowls News with David Harris

ANOTHER spell of mixed results. The friendlies finished with three victories and one defeat, whilst the County games proved rather a nightmare.

The first, a County Men's Over 60s match with Plymouth was not completed owing to a mix-up over the start time of the away leg. The second, a Men's Inter Club match against Mid-Devon ended in a 25 shot defeat despite the great efforts of Chris Coombes, Geoff Clode, Gerald Knott, and Charlie Barber who recorded an excellent away win (22-18).

The mixed friendlies started with a home defeat by Donyatt (48-66) with no winners but we went on to complete two good home wins, firstly against Isca (35-29) with Ann Clayton, Les Monk, Lilian Lovatt, and Margaret Crompton the top rink (19-14) and against Yeovil (50-49) in a truly nail-biting game with the best rink being Ann Clayton, Liz Earl, Lilian Lovatt, and David Harris (20-16). The Mens' friendly with Westlands ended in an excellent 81-38 win with a top rink of Ron Bicknell, Gerald Knott, Malcolm Denslow, and David Boyland (37-6).

Congratulations to our Ladies trio of Ann Clayton, Nola Stephens, and Margaret Crompton who completed an overwhelming victory over Budleigh Ladies in the County Knock-out competition (31-6) which indeed also included a 'hot-shot'.

Also to be congratulated on a 'hot-shot' are Francis Marsh, John Sweetland, Albert Brown, and Betty Hudson who accomplished this feat in an internal league match.

May I wish all members and friends a very happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

AXE VALLEY RUNNERS

With *Dave Mutter*

ON Saturday night six AVRs and one guest did the Midwinter Dream pub run, a 17mile multi-terrain route from Seaton. On a surprisingly balmy night, Garry Perratt, Andrew Knight, Chris Irving, Chris Keeffe, Richard Dodge and Dorset Doddler Andy Goodman left the Hook and Parrot at 6pm. Their first port of call was the Harbour in Axmouth for a quick drink before starting the off-roading on the way up to the Gerrard Arms in Colyton where Liam Roberts met them.

Then followed the longest leg, up into Jobblehayes Wood with half the runners braving Heathayne Ford which was surprisingly uncold, down into Southleigh, up through the woods past Blackbury Castle then over to the Three Horseshoes. After some very welcome soup and rolls the seven went down through Beckham Woods and on to the Fountainhead for another drink before following the coast path to Branscombe Mouth.

Chris Keeffe went on ahead from East Cliff to get back for a shower before boogying the night away at the Grove but the oldies took it more steadily to Beer and by mutual agreement skipped the pub stop, instead heading directly to Seaton to refuel with kebab & chips. And thus ended an all-round fantastic experience with forgiving weather and a great view of the stars from East Cliff.

There was a weak winter sun in a cloudless blue sky at Hemyock for the 25th Wellington Monument "Bert King Memorial" Road Race on Sunday. It's a 6.27 miles return journey up to the monument from The Catherine Wheel public house in the village square. This could have been perfect ending for the racing year for Richard Hale, Luke Reed, Eleanor Wood and Liam Roberts having already passed safely along the wintry roads and lanes on the way to Hemyock. Unfortunately race organisers of the increasingly popular event sensibly decided at the last moment that the icy conditions were too dangerous and the race was duly cancelled.

This brought a round of sympathetic applause for the worried organisers from the crowd of runners in the School Hall. A hot toddy and mince pies were still on offer though to appease the disappointed throng as was a special 25th race anniversary hat. Appreciative runners had something warm to wear on the slow icy journey home.

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◆ HAWKCHURCH FC who are riding high at the top of Perry Street League Division Three. Back row from left: Paul Strawbridge, Martin Bright, Ollie Pearce, Ashley Raisen, Dan Turner, Paul Chapman, Mark Brookes, Nigel Harding (manager). Front: Gavin Herrod, Glenn Harding, Lee Herrod, Simon Herrod, Steve Real, Tim Hussey, Steve Harding. Photo Howard Larcombe

◆ SEATON Town Football Club has a flourishing Youth Section which this year has seven teams covering the age range from eight to 13.There is tremendous support from parents and organisers for the Youth Section but they lack playing facilities. The under eight and nine teams hold their games on the Play Area at Elizabeth Road, which is not a designated football field, and maintenance is difficult. In recent months four organisations have provided invaluable financial support for the Youth Section. The Yorkshire Building Society's agency at Thomas Westcott Chartered Accountants donated £250 from their Community Investment Fund which was established to help small local community causes. Similar amounts were given by Seaton Lions Club, Seaton Phoenix and Seaton Town Council. The funds were used to provide new kit, equipment for training and matches, a new line-marking machine and storage facilities. All those working with the youngsters have expressed their gratitude for this support.

Pictured above are members of Seaton Football Club Youth Section in their new kit together with their team managers and Sandra Semple (Chair of Seaton Town Council), Sue Gale and Anne Ffoulkes (Yorkshire Building Society/Thomas Westcott), Dennis Morgan (Seaton Lions Club) Barbara Dearden-Potter and Jim Knight (Seaton Phoenix).

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